

PLANNING UPDATE

BURNS DISTRICT OFFICE

28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738

JULY 2003

Web Site: <http://www.or.blm.gov/burns>

What You Can Find In This Document

Updates like this one are published annually. While the format is flexible, major sections similar to those described below will be included in each edition.

Feature Reports: Reports in this section provide information for ongoing programs or planning efforts of which the public has indicated a special interest.
Page 3

Summary of Work: This section identifies the FY accomplishments and work proposed for the following year. Usually, only significant work or issues will be discussed. More general information is available to individuals upon request.
Page 10

Rangeland Program Summary: This section outlines progress being made in implementing the rangeland management objectives identified in the Resource Areas' land use plans. Page 17

Environmental Assessment (EA) Register: Listed in this section are those EAs expected to be completed this FY. Some may have been identified in the last update, but have not yet been completed. EAs and decision documents can also be found on our internet site at http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns/Planning/Planning_Index.htm.
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Introduction

This is the eleventh annual Planning Update published by the Burns District. This issue reports highlights of Fiscal Year (FY) 02 accomplishments and work planned for FY03.

It is our desire to keep you informed on issues, activities, and opportunities we think are of interest to the public. More importantly, we are seeking ideas and comments from those who may be affected by our multiple-use management programs. For general information or for comments regarding the Planning Update, please write to the address shown above.



Feature Reports

Andrews Resource Management Plan
Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area
Hazardous Fuels Reduction
Cultural Program

Summary of Work Accomplishments and Plans

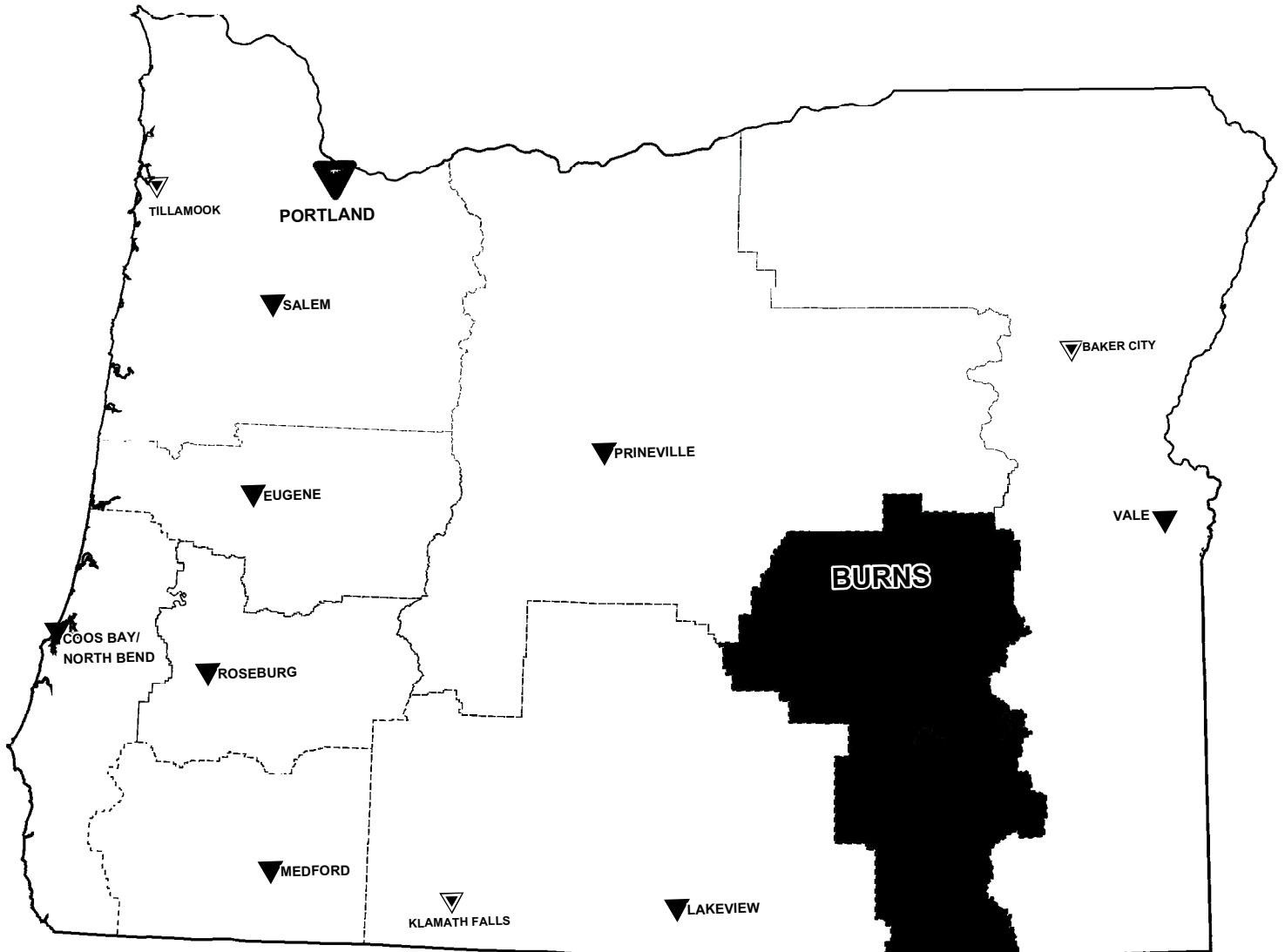
This section is not intended to be a comprehensive description of all activities, but rather a summary of significant activities and land use implementation actions, both accomplished and planned. For additional information, please contact the Burns District Office staff.

This summary includes FY02 accomplishments with FY03 planned work for the following programs:

Botany Program
Wild Horse and Burro Program
Fish and Wildlife Program
Threatened and Endangered Species Program
Forestry Program
Noxious Weed Program
Minerals Program
Lands and Realty Program
Recreation Program
Volunteer Program

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
Burns District, Oregon

**FIGURE 1 - GENERAL LOCATION MAP
2003**



Note: No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data was compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification. (GeneralLocationMap-BLMOffices.mxd) 5/14/2003
Burns District BLM, Stacy Fenton

Legend



BLM State Office



BLM District Office



BLM Resource Area Office



Burns District Boundary



BLM District Boundary

FEATURE REPORTS

Andrews/Steens Resource Management Plan

During FYs 2002-2003, the process of preparing the Andrews Management Unit/Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area Resource Management Plan (RMP) and accompanying Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has steadily progressed. The Analysis of the Management Situation and Subbasin Review was prepared and distributed to the public in 2002. This document details the current condition of the resources in the Planning Area and characterizes the present management direction.

In winter 2002, scoping meetings were held to solicit public input on possible future management direction and issues to be analyzed in the EIS. These meetings were held in Burns, Frenchglen, Bend, and Portland. The public was also asked to comment on five management alternatives developed primarily by Burns District resource specialists. The alternatives represent an array of potential courses of resource management in the Planning Area over the next 10 to 20 years. A total of 3,601 comments was received, primarily through form letters. The alternatives were subsequently modified, the scoping comments were considered by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) specialists, and where appropriate, incorporated into the RMP process.

Goals and objectives were developed for each resource to be considered in the RMP/EIS. As defined by the BLM *Land Use Planning Handbook* (H-1601-1), goals are defined as broad statements of desired outcomes and are usually not quantifiable and not tied to timeframes. Objectives are characterized as descriptions of desired outcomes for resources and are quantifiable and measurable, usually having established timeframes for achievement.

Under each resource objective, proposed actions were developed to achieve the objectives, and in many cases the actions developed were different depending on the alternative; the resource objectives, however, remain constant across the five proposed management alternatives.

BLM specialists, in concert with the independent contractor hired to assist in the preparation of the document, are preparing the RMP/EIS in anticipation of presenting it for public review and comment beginning in September 2003. A 90-day public comment period is scheduled to begin at the time the document becomes available. October 2004 is the target date for the finalization of the RMP process.

Several agencies signed Memoranda of Understanding to officially serve as cooperating agencies through the process, agreeing to review documents and lend special knowledge and expertise in assisting the BLM with the preparation of the RMP. These include Harney County, City of Burns, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), City of Hines, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (MNWR), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), and Burns Paiute Tribe. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Ecological Services is participating as well.

Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000

Introduction – Summary of Legislation

The Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (Steens Act) was enacted through a bipartisan Congressional effort and created through extensive collaboration among a wide array of local, regional, and national interests. At the heart of the Steens Act is the purpose and process by which to conserve, protect, and manage the long-term ecological integrity of the Steens Mountain Area through a collaborative process fostering cooperative management between private landowners, local and regional interests, and the BLM. The Steens Act is unique in its depth of special designations and prescriptions for management direction. Although complex, the Steens Act presents a prime opportunity for the BLM to showcase not just a landscape rich in natural resource diversity, but also its ability to effectively work with the local community, tribal and local governments, special interests, and landowners to manage for ecological integrity while providing for continuation of historic uses. Some of the special features of the Steens Act include:

- Establishes a Mineral Withdrawal Area consisting of approximately 900,000 acres of Federal land. These lands are withdrawn from location, entry, and patent under mining laws and operation of mineral leasing, geothermal leasing, and minerals material laws.
- Establishes the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA) consisting of 425,550 acres of Federal land and requires a Management Plan to be completed within 4 years after passage of the Steens Act.
- Establishes the Steens Mountain Wilderness Area consisting of 169,465 acres of public land (this includes the legislative acquisition of 13,833 acres of private land completely surrounded by Congressionally-designed wilderness). There is a No Livestock Grazing Area with 97,071 acres of public land; the first Congressionally-designed cattle-free wilderness of its kind.
- Establishes new Wild and Scenic Rivers to include Kiger Creek (4.25 miles), Wildhorse Creek (7.00 miles), and Little Wildhorse Creek (2.60 miles), and designates new segments to the Donner und Blitzen Wild and Scenic River as follows: Ankle Creek (8.10 miles), South Fork of Ankle Creek (1.60 miles), and Mud Creek (5.10 miles). These new designations will provide a total of 103.65 miles of Wild and Scenic River within the CMPA. All of these rivers are classified as “wild.”
- Establishes the Donner und Blitzen Redband Trout Reserve for the purposes of conserving, protecting, and enhancing Redband trout and the unique ecosystem and providing opportunities for research, education, and fish and wildlife-oriented recreation.
- Establishes the 3,267-acre Wildland Juniper Management Area for purposes of experimentation, education, interpretation, and demonstration of management techniques for restoration of historic fire regime and native vegetation communities.
- Authorizes five specific Land Exchanges to remove private land within the Wilderness Area and No Livestock Grazing Area, and provides for future acquisitions within the boundaries of the CMPA by voluntary exchange, donation, or purchase from willing sellers. The purposes of these acquisitions are to protect and consolidate public ownership within the CMPA.
- Establishes Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) to advise the BLM in managing the CMPA and promoting cooperative management. The SMAC shall utilize sound science, existing plans, and other tools to formulate recommendations regarding new and unique approaches to the management of land within the boundaries of the CMPA; and cooperative programs and incentives for seamless landscape management that meets human needs and maintains and improves ecological and economic integrity. BLM shall consult with the SMAC as part of the preparation

and implementation of the management plan. Members of the SMAC will be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior and shall consist of one private landowner; two grazing permittees; one person interested in fish and recreational fishing; a member of the Burns Paiute Tribe; two persons who are recognized environmental representatives (one local and one Statewide); a person who participates in dispersed recreation such as hiking, camping, horseback riding, etc.; a person who is a recreational permit holder or is a representative of a commercial recreation operation within the CMPA; a person representing consumptive recreation uses such as hunting, fishing, off-road driving, etc.; a person with expertise and interest in wild horse management on Steens Mountain; and one person who has no financial interest in the CMPA to represent Statewide interests.

- Additional provisions provided by the Steens Act which pertain to the CMPA include:
 - The use of motorized or mechanical vehicles on public land is prohibited off road, and no new roads shall be constructed with exception for public safety and environmental protection.
 - Management shall emphasize the restoration of the historic fire regime and the resulting native vegetation communities through active management of western juniper on a landscape level.
 - Hunting and fishing on public land will continue under existing Federal and State authorities.
 - New facilities constructed on public land are limited to those that are minimal and consistent with the purposes of the Steens Act, and are for enhancing the botanical, fish, wildlife or watershed conditions; for public information, health or safety; for the management of livestock; or for the management (not promotion) of recreation.
 - The BLM may enter into nondevelopment agreements, conservation easements, cooperative management agreements, or conservation incentive payments with willing landowners to further the purposes of the Steens Act.
 - The BLM, in consultation with the SMAC, may appoint a Science Committee consisting of respected, knowledgeable, and diverse scientists to provide advice on questions relating to the management of the CMPA.

Actions for this year

Steens Mountain Advisory Council

The SMAC, representing a broad array of interests, was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior on August 14, 2001. Since inception, the SMAC met seven times in FY02 and nine meetings are scheduled for FY03. During its first year, the SMAC made several consensus recommendations to BLM regarding Environmental Assessments (EA), recreation, interpretation, wild horse gathers, Land and Water Conservation Funding (as provided for in the Steens Act), the CMPA Interim Management Policy, project implementation, and an integral land exchange outlined in the Steens Act.

To help fulfill public expectations and BLM's requirement to complete a comprehensive RMP/EIS by October 2004, SMAC involvement in the preparation and implementation of the RMP/EIS is imperative. Main SMAC focus for the RMP include recreation, wilderness and transportation issues. Other resources of interest are wildlife, partnerships and specially designated areas including the Redband Trout Reserve, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), and the Wildland Juniper Management Area (WJMA).

No Livestock Grazing Area – Projects, Status

In FY01, an EA for "Projects for Implementation of the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act (EA OR-027-01-27)" was written, circulated for public comment, and approved, with no subsequent appeals.

The projects discussed in this EA are needed to implement the "No Livestock Grazing Area" Projects include installing and maintaining fencing required for resource protection, providing replacement forage within and outside the CMPA, and constructing fencing and water systems to allow for sustainable livestock grazing, which ultimately promotes the long-term ecological integrity within the CMPA.

The proposed projects include construction of approximately 25 miles of new fence and eight new waterholes, installation of four cattle guards and approximately 13 miles of pipeline with 13 water troughs; drilling of two wells, developing three springs and conducting maintenance on two additional springs. Also proposed is the removal of approximately 55 miles of fence in the Steens Mountain Wilderness.

In FY 02, the BLM completed the following projects from the above list: constructed 4.5 miles of fence, installed 2 cattle guards, painted 1 cattleguard, drilled 1 well with 4 troughs and 4 miles of pipeline, and constructed 4 waterholes. Approximately 2 miles of existing fence were removed from the wilderness. Many of the proposed projects needed for implementation of the Steens Act had survey, design, and on-the-ground layout work completed.

Currently in FY 03, 5 miles of fence have been constructed. There are 13 miles of fence to be constructed, 2 springs to be reconstructed, 1-mile of pipeline to be installed, and 2 spring developments planned for completion this year. In addition, approximately 2 miles of fence within the No Livestock Grazing Area is planned for removal by volunteer groups. By the end of FY03 all new fence construction needed to implement the No Livestock Grazing Area will be completed. The BLM will then inventory all wilderness boundary fencing to determine maintenance and reconstruction needs.

Wilderness

The Steens Mountain Wilderness was designated with the signing of the Steens Act and is now a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System. All motorized and mechanized equipment are prohibited in wilderness except as provided for in the Steens Act. Ninety-five percent of the wilderness boundary is now signed as closed to motorized and mechanized equipment to comply with wilderness regulations.

In FY03, BLM will continue boundary signing as well as intensive wilderness monitoring and inventory to establish baseline condition and monitoring points. The information gathered will be vital in developing a Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River Management Plan as required by law.

Land Exchanges

The five legislated land exchanges were completed in April 2002. The purposes of the exchanges were to protect and consolidate public land within the CMPA and to remove private land from the Steens Mountain Wilderness and No Livestock Grazing Area. Landowners, environmental groups, and Congressional staffs worked collaboratively to expedite the exchanges pursuant to the legislative direction.

The Steens Act also provides for future acquisitions within the boundaries of the CMPA by voluntary exchange, donation or purchase from willing sellers. BLM continues to work with private individuals in this endeavor.

Hazardous Fuels Reduction

Since the early 1980's, there has been a shift in how the public, and therefore the Federal agencies, have viewed wildland fires in the Pacific Northwest. Prior to European settlement, fire played a significant role in most Pacific Northwest ecosystems. Plants and animals developed mechanisms to either escape, avoid or tolerate the periodic fires. Following European settlement, fires in northwest forests and rangelands were viewed as a destructive force. Resources consumed by the fire were thought to be lost, and therefore fire was viewed as a competitor and not an ally. Land management agencies in the early part of the 20th century began a campaign to reduce the land and resources lost to wildfires. In time, these efforts became very effective. Unfortunately, these efforts had unforeseen long-term impacts.

Reducing the influence of fire in these ecosystems allowed living and dead plant material to accumulate. Prior to the era of fire suppression, periodic fires in forests and rangelands kept the amount of dead and dying trees, or density and cover of shrubs at a level where large, catastrophic



wildfires were a rare event. From the early part of the 20th century to the 1950's and 1960's there were little obvious impacts of the fire suppression efforts.

In the early 1980's, there appeared to be an increase in the number of acres burned and the average size of fires. This trend became readily apparent in the 1990's, when large catastrophic wildfires began to occur every fire season. Some of these fires received widespread attention because of their damage or threats to businesses and residences in the areas adjacent to forest and wildlands, now called the Wildland Urban Interface. In the latter part of the 1990's, the Federal agencies began to work to reduce these threats.

The BLM Fuels Management Program treated less than 60,000 acres nationwide prior to 1998. Since that time, the BLM has treated an average of 188,000 acres a year nationwide. The hazardous fuels reduction projects strive to mitigate threats to public safety, and enhance, restore, and/or maintain critical plant and animal communities.

The Burns District has followed the National direction by increasing the number of acres treated from under 2,500 acres in 1996 to over 10,000 acres in 2002. A combination of prescribed fire and various mechanical treatments have been utilized to reduce the threats to the public and enhance, maintain, and restore plant and animal communities.



The Burns District manages a diverse landscape in the southern Blue Mountains and northern Great Basin of southeastern Oregon. Many vegetation types are represented within this area from timber on the north to sagebrush-steppe on the southern end. Present and future fuels projects within the Burns District are focused on reducing these hazardous fuel concentrations and restoring native plant and animal communities that rely on periodic disturbance from fire.

A combination of mechanical fuels treatment and prescribed fire are being used to help

reduce fuels accumulations in the ponderosa pine forests on the Burns District. A strategic fuels management plan is being developed for the Three Rivers Resource Area. The goal of this planning effort is to identify existing fuel breaks and areas where fuel breaks are needed in the forest and forest-fringe areas. Two other planning projects are also currently underway; Dry Mountain Old Growth Fuels Reduction and the Coleman Creek/Fir Gulch Fuels Reduction projects.



The other areas where a majority of the fuels management projects are being conducted are in the sagebrush plant communities that have been, or are in the process of being, converted to western juniper woodlands. The primary goals of these projects are protecting life and private property located within and adjacent to these plant communities, and restoring or maintaining sagebrush plant communities. Many wildlife species rely on these sagebrush plant communities for their life cycles. Western juniper has increased significantly over the last 150 years at the expense of sagebrush and associated plant species. Reduction in the dominance of western juniper will help to reestablish mountain big sagebrush, quaking aspen, and riparian hardwood plant communities.

Three prescribed fire projects were completed in the fall of 2002 on the Burns District for a total of 9,200 acres treated. Stonehouse, Otis Mountain, and Chimney/Tackman prescribed burns occurred between mid-September and mid-October. These projects achieved their goal of reducing the dominance of western juniper in sagebrush and aspen plant communities. The Stonehouse and Otis Mountain prescribed fires occurred where the plant communities were in the middle stages of juniper encroachment. The western juniper woodland on the Chimney/Tackman prescribed fire was in the later stages of encroachment. In this area a considerable amount of pre-burning treatment was required. The densities of trees were sufficient to out-compete the understory vegetation, limiting the potential for fire spread. Selected trees were either cut, girdled (cut partially through the main stem, tree left standing), or limbed throughout the lower branches. The dead trees or slash provide sufficient fuel to carry the fire and kill the remaining trees. The three prescribed fires were conducted in cooperation with adjacent landowners.



In FY03, the Burns District will cut 1,900 acres of western juniper across the District. The East Ridge prescribed fire will be conducted in the fall. This is the second part of a multiyear project along Kiger Creek on the Steens Mountain. The prescribed fire will occur along the west slope of the canyon. The western juniper was partially cut to facilitate fire spread. Ignition of the units will occur in the late summer or early fall of 2003. The BLM is working in cooperation with two adjacent landowners to complete the project. The landowners have secured grants to treat areas within the project area. Inclusion of these sections of land allows the project to be conducted based on landscape features rather than ownership lines. This should increase the efficiency of project implementation.

The Bridge Creek Ecosystem Restoration Project is currently in the planning phases. The goal of the project is to reduce the influence of western juniper along the west slope of the Steens Mountain from McCoy Creek to the North Loop Road. The project will be a multiyear project utilizing juniper cutting and prescribed fire to achieve resource objectives.

Cultural Program

Prior to implementing district projects in FY02, 11,000 acres were inventoried through the fuels reduction program, land exchanges, range improvement projects and other ground disturbing activities. Approximately 150 new sites were recorded. Following these inventories, the projects listed below, which involved three universities and staff of the BLM, were completed:



University Nevada Reno students working at a site near Harney Lake.

University of Oregon (U of O) completed excavations at late prehistoric village sites near Malheur Lake. Patrick O'Grady is the graduate student in charge of the excavations focusing on site function, chronology, seasonality, and comparison to settlement patterns described in early historical accounts of the Northern Paiute people. His Ph.D. dissertation on four sites in the Malheur Lake Basin will be completed by spring 2004.



University of Oregon Field School at Malheur Lake.

University of Nevada Reno (UNR) finished work at an archaeological site near Harney Lake. The BLM dug four backhoe trenches in the site area to aid in interpretation of the 10,800-year-old site and shoreline of ancient Harney Lake. Graduate student Teresa Wriston is wrapping up her analysis of the site and will complete her Master's thesis by spring 2003. UNR completed work at Juniper Lake archaeological site in the Alvord Basin on the east side of the Steens. Fred Nials, geoarchaeologist working with UNR and the District Archaeologist will report on the findings of the 7,000-year-old site in 2003.

Washington State University graduate student Lance Wollwage completed his Master's thesis on the Guano Slough archaeological site in Catlow Valley. A small portion of the site was excavated in 1998 and 1999 by Professor Peter Mehringer and students. Wollwage was able to characterize the 3,000+-year-old deposits that had been heavily damaged by past illegal looting.

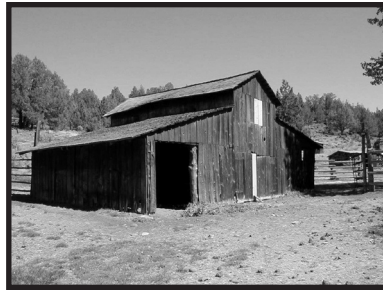
FY02 BLM in-house research has focused on obsidian sourcing and hydration data from a sample of 125 atlatl and spear points collected in Catlow Valley in fall 2000. The points' use wear was analyzed and they were classified by U of O student Tobin Bottman. Once the analysis was completed, the District Archaeologist brought all of the data together in a paper presented at the 2002 Great Basin Anthropological Conference (GBAC). Other staff archaeologists worked on a poster linking cultural clearance inventories to archaeological research. The poster was also presented at the GBAC.

Historic Restoration

FY02 was a busy year in historic restoration on Burns District. We received funding to complete three restoration projects and begin a third. The Benjamin Riddle Cabin and Frederick Riddle house and barn in the Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District were completely restored in coordination with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. The Bulkeley Cabin in Silvies Valley was completely restored and material for the Trout Creek School restoration was purchased.



Benjamin Riddle Cabin before restoration.



Frederick Riddle barn after repairs in 2002.



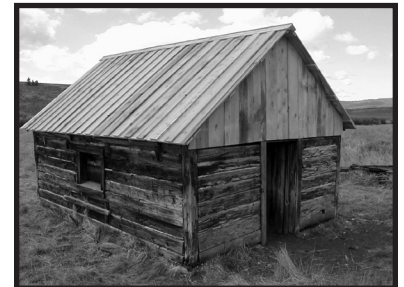
Buckley Cabin in 2001. Collapsed roof and support structure removed and the building braced.



Benjamin Riddle Cabin after restoration in 2002.



Contractor installing new cedar shingles on the Trout Creek School in late 2002.



Buckley Cabin after restoration in 2002.

Research

Portland State University graduate student Nicole Stutte has been working with the District Archaeologist in the second half of FY02 on her Master's thesis project. The project will entail radiocarbon dating prehistoric Bison (buffalo) specimens from southeast Oregon. The chronological data will be interpreted in light of prehistoric environmental data from the region. Her dating project begins early in FY03 and will be reported at the 2003 Northwest Anthropological Conference (NWAC) and in her Master's thesis in September 2003.

University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee graduate student Emily Mueller, will be working on a prehistoric village site on the Little Blitzen River in Riddle Brothers Ranch National Historic District. Her goals are to evaluate the site's contents, particularly focusing on recovery and identification of redband trout bones. Additionally, she is interested in analyzing plant or animal remains found imbedded in grinding stones at the site. The field work and analysis will be published in FY04.

FY03 BLM in-house research is focusing on obsidian sourcing and hydration analysis of 8,000+-year-old atlatl and spear points from a site near Harney Lake and the other near Lake on the Trail. We anticipate presenting a paper on the subject at the 2004 NWAC and GBAC and publishing it in a professional journal.

Historic Preservation

Trout Creek School, an early 20th century, one-room schoolhouse in Silvies Valley, is slated for complete restoration in FY03. A new cedar shingle roof was added in early 2003 to protect the structure from continued water damage.

SUMMARY OF WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PLANS

Botany Program

Botanical inventories for fuels reduction projects, range improvement projects, and a variety of other projects covering 6,950 acres were completed in FY02.

During inventory and fire rehabilitation project monitoring, 20 new Special Status plant sites were found. These include populations of *Castilleja viscidula* (1), *Cymopterus nivalis* (1), *Lomatium ravenii* (5), *Malacothrix glabrata* (2), *Pedicularis centranthera* (4), *Penstemon seorsus* (4), *Polycytenium fremontii* var. *confertum* (2), and *Symphoricarpos longifolia* (1). Monitoring studies were established for Leiberg's clover, *Trifolium leibergii*, through a Challenge Cost-Share project with Dr. Robert Meinke of the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Oregon State University (OSU). Malheur prince's plume monitoring was continued through a Challenge Cost-Share project with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and the BLM, Vale District. Other species monitored include *Cymopterus purpurascens*, *Lepidium davisii*, *Lupinus biddlei*, and *Stephanomeria malheurensis*.

An effectiveness monitoring plan was developed for the fuels program to assess the results of our fuels reduction actions, particularly juniper cutting. A strategy for baseline monitoring of biological soil crusts has been developed. Goals, objectives, and actions have been developed for crusts and incorporated into the Andrews RMP.

Four sites of Columbia cress (*Rorippa columbiae*) were fenced to prevent damage by livestock. The sites were not very productive during 2002 due to the continued drought conditions.

Monitoring studies were completed in the Pueblo Foothills and Long Draw Research Natural Area (RNA/ACEC), and for Mickey Basin, Little Blitzen, Rooster Comb, Little Wildhorse, and Alvord Desert RNAs. Resource objectives are being met. Grazing trespass was discovered in the Silver Creek RNA/ACEC Addition, but prompt action resulted in little permanent damage to the riparian area. Subsequent visits in the fall showed little evidence that cattle had been in the RNA in the spring.

Inventory of *Carex* species continued for the second year through a Challenge Cost-Share project. Sites in the north half of the District were inventoried in 2002, while sites on Steen Mountain were inventoried in 2001.

Seeds of 12 species were collected for the Seeds of Success Program. The District will continue to support this program and collect seeds of eight species.

Work continued on the Wyoming big sagebrush restoration project. This is a continuing project to restore lost or degraded sagebrush ecosystem in an effort to improve quality of sage-grouse habitat. These sites are selected with the intent that they will naturally seed areas around them. Seeding sites were disked in October and May. Snow fences were constructed in the summer and sagebrush and bluebunch wheatgrass were planted in early December. High winds shortly after seeding required reconstruction of some of the snow fence and some areas were reseeded in late December. Tapertip hawksbeard (*Crepis acuminata*) seed was collected from the vicinity of the restoration project and was taken to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Lucky Peak Nursery to increase the seed quantity for planting in 2004.

In FY03 many projects have been planned for range improvement, minerals, and forest health. Clearance inventories are scheduled for approximately 3,000 acres of fuels reduction and land tenure projects as well. The Challenge Cost-Share project to monitor and inventory Malheur prince's plume will continue, as will the Wyoming big sagebrush restoration, with more sites being disked and reseeded. New sagebrush restoration sites will be constructed and planted, and seed of additional forb species will be collected and taken to nurseries for seed increase to plant in the restoration sites. Inventory and monitoring of Special Status plants will also continue in FY03, including fire rehabilitation treatments that were planted in 2002.

Wild Horse and Burro Program

The Burns District is the lead office for Oregon and Washington's wild horse adoption and gathering program. The District manages eight wild horse Herd Management Areas (HMAs) and provides support for the management of 11 others that are located in the Lakeview, Vale, and Prineville Districts. In addition, one herd is managed by the Ochoco National Forest near Prineville and a second near Dayville is managed jointly by the Prineville District and the Malheur National Forest.



Currently, approximately 3,200 horses are on the range in Oregon's 21 HMAs. Each herd is gathered every 3 to 5 years, depending on range conditions and actual population numbers, which are determined by range studies and periodic census. Since the 2001 planning update, the Burns District removed 33 horses from the Heath Creek-Sheepshead HMA, while another 834 horses were removed from other districts in Oregon.

Gathered excess animals are available

to qualified adopters through adoption events held at the Burns Wild Horse Corral Facility and in cities throughout Oregon and Washington. Burros from the southwest are also available at some of the adoption events. Animals are also available to adopters through "Walk Up" appointments at the Burns Corral Facility for the minimum adoption fee of \$125 per animal. In 2002, 394 animals were adopted at five adoption events in Oregon and Washington, while 315 animals were transported to other states for adoption.

During FY03, the Burns District plans to remove approximately 330 horses in highest priority areas to be determined through assessment of drought conditions.

Information about the Wild Horse Program is available through the internet at the following sites:

National Wild Horse and Burro Web Page: <http://www.blm.gov/whb>

Burns District Home Page: <http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns/>

Adoption applications and information may also be obtained by calling the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4400.

Fish and Wildlife Program

In 2002, the Burns District inventoried and monitored Fisheries, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources to better understand condition and trend. To accomplish this we collected water temperature data and aquatic macroinvertebrate samples from streams and springs throughout the District, conducted aquatic habitat inventory on several streams, monitored streambank alteration, repeated established monitoring photos, and added new photopoints. This effort will be continued in 2003.

Many streams throughout the District are experiencing declines in woody riparian species, especially cottonwoods. Cuttings from cottonwoods and other woody species were collected in 2002 and planted at several stoolbed locations. These plantings will provide locally adapted woody material for future planting along streams to restore riparian vegetation.

Several projects benefiting aquatic and riparian dependent species are planned for implementation in 2003. These include Rattlesnake Creek Aspen Enclosures, Newell Creek Aspen and Willow Project, and Lost Creek Culvert Replacement and Enclosure. All three projects involve protection of riparian vegetation, mainly declining aspen stands, by fencing to reduce grazing and browsing impacts. An undersized culvert on Lost Creek will be replaced with one that will better accommodate streamflow and allow passage of aquatic organisms.

A study of small mammal abundance and diversity was conducted in the Alvord Desert in 2002 in conjunction with Western Washington University. Multiyear migratory bird surveys were conducted on the Little Blitzen River in 2001 and 2002, and throughout the District on sagebrush-steppe species from 2000-2002; both of these projects are planned for continuation in 2003. Waterfowl brood counts have been conducted on a yearly basis, and will be continued in 2003.

Threatened and Endangered Species Program

Sage-grouse lek surveys and census of wintering bald eagle populations have been conducted yearly in conjunction with ODFW and the Malheur National Forest, and will continue in 2003. Inventory to determine locations of Columbia spotted frogs, a Federal candidate species, have been conducted through a cost-share project for the past three years (2000-2002). No spotted frog studies are planned for 2003, but inventory for new populations and monitoring of existing populations are planned in the future. A cost-share project to inventory ferruginous hawks, a BLM Special Status species, is planned for 2003.

In 1998, the Columbia River Distinct Population Segment of bull trout was listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). Within the Burns District, bull trout are found in the Malheur River system with the main populations located in the upper watersheds. Burns BLM fish biologists have been working collaboratively with biologists from the Burns Paiute Tribe, the ODFW, USFWS, Bureau of Reclamation, and the USFS on bull trout data collection and recovery efforts. In November 2002, USFWS proposed critical habitat needed for continued existence and recovery of bull trout. Within the Burns District boundaries, this includes the mainstem of the Malheur River from Warm Springs dam upstream to the USFS boundary. In 2003, the Burns District will work in coordination with USFWS to ensure that BLM actions comply with the ESA and contribute to the conservation of bull trout and their habitat.

In 2001, Oregon DEQ started the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process on the Alvord Lake subbasin to address streams on the 303(d) list for exceeding water temperature standards. This subbasin is the first within the Burns District to go through the TMDL process and was selected because Lahontan cutthroat trout, listed as threatened under the Federal ESA, inhabit streams within the subbasin. In 2001 and 2002, BLM biologists assisted DEQ with data collection in the Alvord Lake subbasin and in 2003, the BLM expects to complete several Water Quality Restoration Plans to address water quality limited streams on public land.

Forestry Program

The forestry program is primarily confined to the Three Rivers Resource Area, except for minor amounts of special forest product sales in the Andrews Resource Area.

Forest health treatments and associated hazardous fuels reduction projects continue to be the District's priority for forest management. The The Rattlesnake/Squaw Creek/Coffeepot (RSC) thinning project began implementation in FY02 with four contracts for 415 acres of noncommercial thinning and piling. The project will continue this year with another 550 acres to be noncommercially thinned and piled. The Craft Point Old Growth had 57 acres noncommercially thinned and piled to reduce bark beetle damage. See the Hazardous Fuels Reduction section of this update for more associated projects.

Aspen stands are an important habitat that continues to be a District priority for restoration. The Rattlesnake Aspen Rehabilitation Project will be implemented in FY03. It involves cutting invaded junipers and pines out of four aspen stands and then fencing them to protect reproduction from browsing animals.

An EA was written to analyze forest management options for the consolidated block of BLM land in the Silvies Valley that resulted from a recent land exchange. The Newell Forest Health Project proposes to treat 934 acres of overstocked second growth ponderosa pine stands with fencing and/or replanting 24 aspen stands, noncommercial thinning, slash piling and burning, timber harvest, and/or road relocations and closures.

Special forest products including juniper boughs, posts, and firewood continue to be provided as a service to the public. The Burns District continued to participate in the combined personal use firewood program with the Malheur National Forest. This program enables permit holders to use one permit to cut firewood on Federal land managed by both agencies. Juniper control projects have been identified in the wildlife section of this update.

Noxious Weed Program

During 2002, the District Integrated Weed Management Program actively participated in the ongoing Harney County Weed Management Partnership. This partnership tries to focus and coordinate the management of noxious weeds throughout all the area agencies. These include Harney County Weed Control, ODA, BLM, USFS, MNWR, Agricultural Research Service Experiment Station, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), the cities of Burns and Hines, Soil and Water Conservation District, ODFW, and Oregon State University (OSU) Extension. Activities conducted throughout the year include Education/Awareness Trainings for agency staff and the public, both formal and informal; coordinated inventory and monitoring; coordinated control efforts including cost-share opportunities; and coordinated research and demonstration projects and plots. This partnership has proven to be a very effective way to conduct weed management in our area and is anticipated to evolve into a formal Cooperative Weed Management Area in FY03.

Highlights of the Partnership in FY02 include: Nine appearances of our Fabulous Weed Awareness Mobile around the county; development of Weed Awareness Kiosks which will be deployed in 12 key locations in FY03; continued development of a Statewide Weed Curriculum for grades K-12; ground-truthing of aerial inventory and treatment of Dalmatian toadflax on approximately 30,000 acres of checkerboard BLM and private lands; participation in several large "neighborhood weed control projects" involving multiple landowners and large-scale weed infestations; continued participation in several cooperative research projects: a) to quantify impacts of various herbicides for medusa head control on associated vegetation, particularly forbs; b) to evaluate livestock grazing treatments for control of various problematic weed species; and c) continuing research evaluating appropriate management and rehabilitation of various types of weed-infested sites; demonstration plots for evaluating control methods for Russian knapweed and Dalmatian toadflax; and coordinated control projects throughout the county including road right-of-ways and areas of mixed ownership.



The Weed Awareness Mobile at the Harney County Fair.

The following weed program activities occurred on the Burns District in FY02: 30,000 acres inventoried, including extensive inventories of previous year wildfires; 950 acres of treatments applied, including both manual and chemical controls (benefits of treatments accomplished include 4 miles of riparian habitat and 615 acres of wetland habitat); and approximately 850 acres of treatments were evaluated. Weed management plans for FY03 include approximately 500 acres of treatment, 25,000 acres of inventory and 500 acres of treatments evaluated.

The Burns District BLM will continue to be involved in the Harney County Weed Management Partnership including extensive involvement in Education/Awareness activities, research and demonstration projects, cooperative treatment projects, and cooperative inventory and monitoring projects.



Preparing to apply a treatment.

Minerals Program

As of November 14, 2002, there were 378 mining claims on Burns District. Most claims are held in the zeolite mine area south of Harney Lake (260 claims held by Ace Hardwood, Inc.) and in the diatomite mine area northeast of Drewsey (77 claims held by Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc.). The zeolite mine has been inactive since January 1998, although the annual claim rental fees have been paid through FY03. The diatomite mine continues to be active. In addition to these two mines, each of which are permitted under a plan of operations, there are four notice-level exploration operations on Burns District. Compliance inspections were conducted for all mineral activities.

Thirteen permits were issued to Harney County residents, the Harney County Road Department, and ODOT for purchase or free use of sand and gravel, decorative flat rock, and rock aggregate for roads.

New minerals regulations require a reclamation bond for all surface-disturbing activities on mining claims and a validity exam for the six claims within the Steens Mineral Withdrawal Area. Implementing these requirements is the primary workload in FY03.

EAs are planned for initial development, expansion, and concurrent reclamation of exhausted portions of five rock sources in Burns District: three of the rock sources are within the CMPA and identified in the Steens Act of 2000 for road maintenance use, one rock source is at Long Hollow Summit northwest of Fields, and one rock source is near Warm Springs Reservoir.

Glass Buttes Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation

In 2002, a contractor removed mercury-contaminated debris from the two retort sites and two nearby portable retorts. One cubic yard of debris was taken to a commercial hazardous waste retort for extraction and recycling of the contained mercury. Forty cubic yards of debris were taken to Chemical Waste Management of Arlington, Oregon, for macro-encapsulation. Mercury-contaminated soil and some mercury-contaminated debris remain at the site and will be remediated as abandoned mine land funds become available.

Additional mercury-contaminated debris will be taken from Glass Buttes to Arlington for macroencapsulation in 2003.

Lands and Realty Program

The final two of five land exchanges authorized under the Steens Act were completed in 2002. These two land exchanges involved over 83,000 acres of public land conveyed to Roaring Springs Ranch, Inc., and Otley Brothers, Inc. The exchanges resulted in acquisition into public ownership of over 11,000 acres containing wilderness, riparian, recreation, scenic, and wildlife values along with important public access easements in Steens Mountain. In addition, two other wilderness inholding parcels totaling 200 acres were purchased utilizing Land and Water Conservation Fund monies. A road easement was also acquired in the Three Rivers Resource Area to provide administrative access for a future timber sale.

In 2002, the District processed, adjusted, and terminated several rights-of-way associated with the Steens legislated exchanges. These actions were necessary to protect existing roads, highways, and utilities and eliminate unnecessary encumbrances to facilitate the exchanges.

Additional rights-of-way and permits were issued in the remainder of the District for development and use of roads, small scale electric power lines, rock stockpiling, National Guard training, and other public land uses. Subsequent monitoring was implemented to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the appropriate permits.

The District offered eight difficult and uneconomic to manage parcels for sale in late 2002 as a part of our ongoing land sale program. One 80-acre parcel was sold. Offers were made and accepted on two additional parcels. Two other parcels totaling 10 acres were also sold to resolve long-standing, inadvertent unauthorized encroachments of ranch buildings and an agricultural field. Two additional unauthorized use cases were also resolved by terminating the illegal uses.

In 2002, the Burns District completed the reconveyance to Harney County of land previously used for a BLM office and ware yard site. The land, located within the City of Burns, was donated by the County to the United States in the 1950's. The deed donating the land contained a provision for reversion to the County upon the United States' cessation of use of the land. BLM stopped using the site in 1988 after moving to a new office location. The property was cooperatively managed by the BLM and the County until fuel and oil spills could be cleaned up. This cleanup was completed in 2001 and the reversionary documents recorded in 2002.

Negotiations will continue this year with willing landowners in the CMPA to secure key parcels in public ownership and to protect and conserve other properties in the CMPA. Exchanges, purchases, and Cooperative Management Agreements are all tools that can be used to meet these objectives. At least two wilderness inholding parcels totaling 40 acres are proposed for acquisition this year. Effort continues on the Miller exchange where a parcel with high development potential on the east face of the Steens would be acquired in exchange for public land in Catlow Valley. The District is also currently negotiating with wilderness inholders to provide them with reasonable access to their property while protecting wilderness values. An EA will be prepared this year to analyze the impacts and alternatives for this access.

Much of the District land and realty support will be directed at preparing the lands, realty, and transportation portions of the Andrews/Steens RMP. Outputs from this planning process will include a transportation plan, required by the Steens Act and land tenure zoning which will focus future land disposal and acquisition efforts.

The District land sale program will continue into 2003 with approximately 2,300 acres (24 parcels) to be offered for sale. This includes six parcels that went unsold in 2002. Screening of disposal parcels, appraisal, and resource inventory for additional acreage will be undertaken so that the land sale program can continue into 2004. An EA and plan amendment will be prepared to sell public land currently under lease for a shooting range operated by the Burns Butte Sportsman Club under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. The club has fully developed the range and has shown interest in seeking fee title to the land.

The EA and decision for the Wrights Point Repeater Site and Communications Site Management Plan will be completed this year. This will pave the way for BLM to develop the site and improve its radio communications system which is also utilized by local emergency services.

Several easements are proposed to provide administrative access for a future BLM timber sale in the Pine Creek area. Most of these easements will be secured by exchanging reciprocal rights-of-way across public land to landowners who need access to their property.

At least four known unauthorized use cases are proposed to be resolved. One of these will result in the sale of a small parcel to resolve a long-standing, inadvertent encroachment of ranch buildings, corrals, a feed lot, and associated facilities. Right-of-way and land use permit applications will continue to be processed as they are received and unauthorized use dealt with as it is discovered. It is anticipated that right-of-way activity may remain stable with no significant increases expected.

Recreation Program

In March 2002, an Interagency Agreement was signed by the Forest Supervisor, Malheur National Forest (USFS) and the BLM's Burns District Manager, authorizing a Zone Interagency Recreation Program between the Emigrant Creek Ranger District and the BLM Burns District. The agreement outlines each agency's responsibilities, such as funding, and offers guidelines for operating the program. This program falls under the umbrella of the "Service First" Initiative where the BLM and USFS are working together to deliver seamless service to customers and "boundary less" care for the land. The Zone Interagency Recreation Program is a win/win situation for the public, the agencies involved, and the communities of Burns and Hines.

Within the guidelines of this agreement, the following were accomplished: quality recreation maintenance provided consistently throughout the USFS facilities; health and safety needs of the visiting public are meeting Federal and State standards; some infrastructure repairs were completed; better signing and organization of information boards within recreation sites and campgrounds has been established.

Oregon Youth Conservation Corp (OYCC) crews provided major cleanup throughout the dispersed campsites within the Emigrant Creek Ranger District; campground hosts were stationed at Delintment Lake, Emigrant, Falls, Idlewild, and Yellowjacket; 18 toilets were pumped; and the Buck Springs toilet was replaced.

Other accomplishments in FY02 include: Nine Special Recreation Permits were issued plus eight Annual Authorizations; continued positive work on updating and replacing signs within the resource area (types of signs were mostly for information, direction, and/or road advisories); and a visitor use monitoring system with road counters on the Loop Road and a sampling project gave us statistically more accurate data.

Coordination efforts between BLM, USFS, ODOT, the State of Oregon, Harney County Chamber of Commerce, MNWR, the State Scenic Byway Committee, and private businesses on the High Desert Discovery Scenic Byway proposal generated much support and success in FY02. The January 2003 meeting of the State Scenic Byway Committee resulted in approval for the Byway itself (State Highway 205 to Fields – not to Denio, as was proposed) and three adjoining tour routes: the East Steens Loop – from Burns to Fields via Highway 78 and the East Steens Road; the Diamond Loop; and the Steens Loop – the latter two of which are already National Backcountry Byways.

A draft Corridor Management Plan has been completed and progress toward a final document will continue throughout FY03. The final draft will then be submitted to the Oregon Tourism Commission, and on to the Oregon Transportation Commission

for ultimate approval. With the authorization of High Desert Discovery, Harney County should have a State byway and tour routes on the map within the next one to two years.

Additional proposed projects for FY03 include continuation of maintenance to all recreation sites, writing of a Districtwide Interim Special Recreation Permit guidebook, paving the access road, host site, and parking lot at Chickahominy Reservoir (work should begin in May/June 2003), continuation of the road counters monitoring system on the Loop Road, and writing several EAs to accommodate special recreation users such as outfitters, packers, and guides. The Zone Interagency Recreation Program is also expected to continue throughout FY03.



Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area - North Steens Loop Road portal sign.

During Summer 2001, the final entrance sign for the CMPA was erected. The Harney County Chamber of Commerce, SMAC, landowners, and BLM – through a Memorandum of Understanding – worked collaboratively and designed a unique, portal sign for the newly designated area. Their efforts are currently focused on advisory road signs which will be installed in FY03, and possibly new kiosks/information boards for the campgrounds.

Volunteer Program

In 2002, volunteers and hosted workers dedicated over 4,500 hours of service to public land on the Burns District. Major projects included noxious weed population inventory and management, fire sign replacement, and wild horse corral improvement with students in the OYCC; equestrian site corral construction at South Steens Campground with the Back Country Horsemen of Oregon; and fence removal in the CMPA with Wilderness Volunteers, local landowners, and members of the Kiger Mesteno Association.



Wilderness Volunteers in the Ankle Creek Area.

The fence removal projects became necessary after the passage of the Steens Act in 2000, which mandated the first No Livestock Grazing Area within wilderness. The newly-designated zone retains approximately 55 miles of fence that merit removal.

Throughout the year, volunteers on the Burns District also completed cultural resource surveys, recorded rock-art and petroglyph findings, collected data for botanical clearances, monitored wilderness activities, maintained trails, hosted campgrounds and historic sites, and provided Information Resource Management support. The following table illustrates volunteer, hosted worker, and BLM contributions throughout the year.

	FY02 VOLUNTEER HOURS	FY02 HOSTED WORKER HOURS	TOTALS
RECREATION	2,618	0	2,618
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	87	446	533
WILD HORSE	60	246	306
WILDERNESS	466	0	466
CULTURAL/HISTORICAL	278	0	278
SUPPORT SERVICES	76	0	76
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION/INTERPRETATION	0	246	246
TOTALS	3,585	938	4,523 hours
BLM FUNDS EXPENDED (\$)	\$ 7,142.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$10,142.00
VALUE OF WORK (\$)	\$57,539.25	\$15,054.90	\$72,594.15

For FY03, planned volunteer projects include additional fence removal in the No Livestock Grazing Area, campground hosts, Riddle Brothers Ranch host, office support, wild horse corrals host, wilderness monitoring, weed inventory, data collection, cultural resource recording, and any other projects that may become available.

Burns District Rangeland Program Summary

Introduction

The purpose of the Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) Update is to outline the progress being made in implementing the rangeland management objectives of each Resource Area as identified in current land use plans.

Since 1998, we have been on a 10-year schedule to complete National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analyses on all 10-year grazing permits, and to do an assessment of each allotment to see if they are in conformance with the “Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for Public Lands in Oregon/Washington (dated August 12, 1997).” In accordance with the regulations (43 CFR 4180), if these assessments identify one or more of the five standards not being met, appropriate action is taken that will result in progress toward meeting these Standards and Guidelines.

Due to the workload, it is not possible to complete an Assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for each allotment as the term permit expires. Therefore, the District process has been to do the Standards and Guideline assessment on a priority schedule. If necessary, the permit may be reissued prior to the assessment, with the condition that it will be cancelled later, if necessary, to add conditions or management changes to ensure progress toward meeting the failed standard(s).

The District has completed assessments on 119 allotments covering 1,397,310 acres (approximately 43 percent of the total acres complete) since 1998. There have been 17 allotments identified as not meeting one or more of the standards due to livestock and seven allotments due to other uses. Most of the permits issued were analyzed in NEPA documents, however, due to various reasons, some were issued under the Appropriation Act and/or the Administrative Procedure Act (USC 558 (c)). They are subject to any modification as a result of final completion of the analysis.

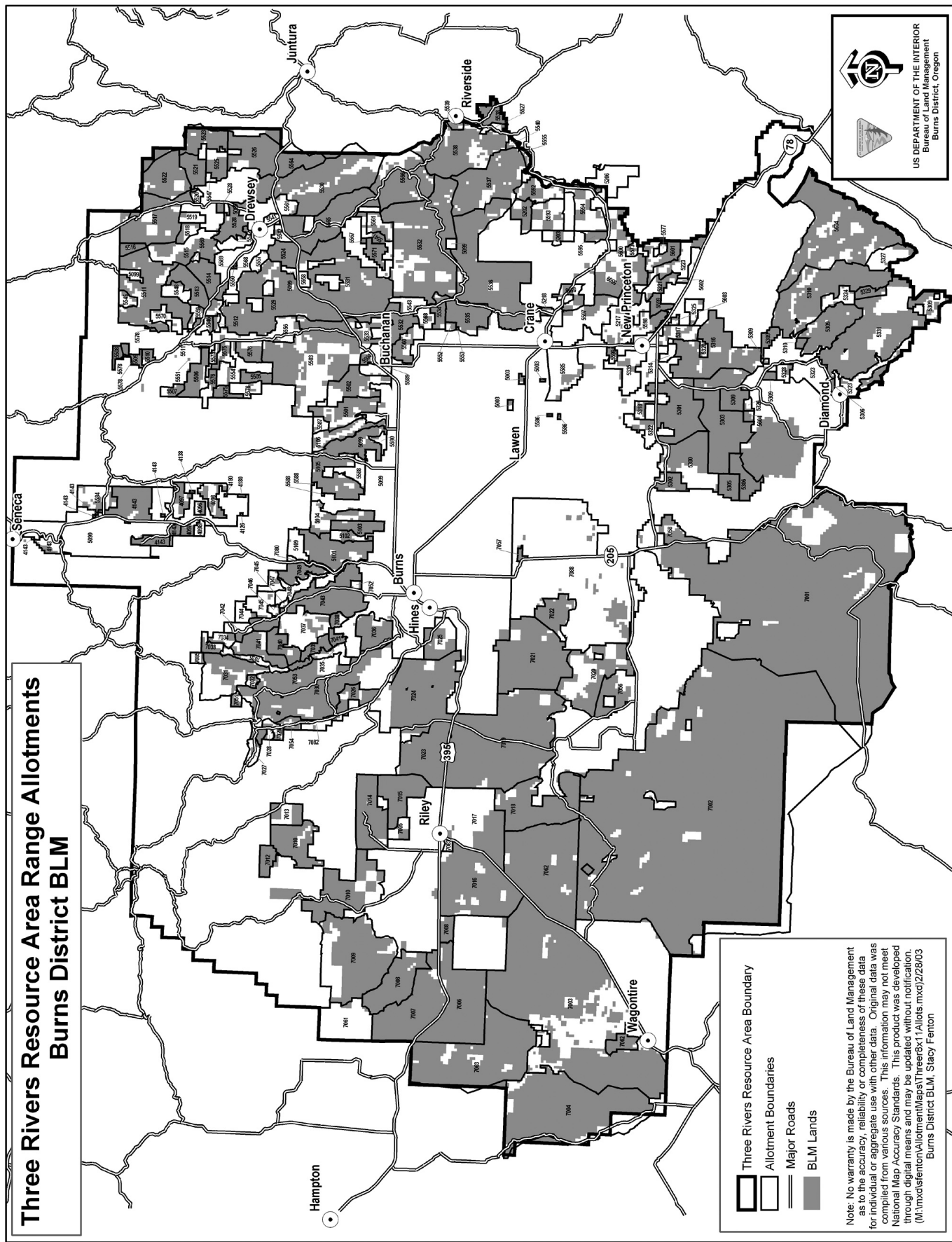
Interested Publics

Following issuance of this RPS Update, there will be a 30-day comment period for the public to request affected interest status.

If you believe that any of the future actions indicated in the RPS Update may affect your interests, contact the BLM Burns District Manager in writing by _____, 2003.

You must advise which specific future actions concern you, the allotment or allotment(s) involved, and your reason for believing that you have an interest that can be affected by future actions. The District Manager will provide those determined to have an affected interest with an opportunity to participate in the development of the livestock grazing management plans in the identified allotments.

Three Rivers Resource Area Range Allotments Burns District BLM



Three Rivers Resource Area

FY 2003 Plans

During FY03, monitoring data will be analyzed, interpreted, and evaluated to document the progress of management to meet resource objectives for the following allotments. An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health will be included in the evaluation.

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Allotment Number
West Davies	5221	East Warm Springs	7001
East Davies	5223	West Wagontire	7004
Moffet Table	5511	Hat Butte	7007
Mule Creek	5515	Sheep Lake-Shields	7008
Birch Creek	5516	Cluster	7017
Mountain	5532	Silvies Meadows	7035
Wheeler Basin	5564	East Silvies	7041
Slocum	5593	Forks of Poison Creek	7049
Beaver Creek	5600	Double O	7056

In addition, assessments for standards and guidelines will be made using an abbreviated evaluation process on the following custodial allotments:

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Allotment Number
Riverside FFR	5527	Ott FFR	5555
W&C Blaylock FFR	5539	J&G Kane FFR	5557
Luce Field	5540	Sword's FFR	5559
Devine Flat Field	5543	Vickers' FFR	5560
Sunshine Field	5545	Wilber FFR	5561
Griffin FFR	5548	Arnold's FFR	5563
Lillard's FFR	5551	Miler FFR	5567
Miller FFR A	5552	River FFR	5570
Miller FFR B	5553	Muddy Creek FFR	5574

Allotment Management Plans (AMPs) will be developed or revised for the following allotments:

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Allotment Number
West Davies	5221	Cluster	7017
East Davies	5223	Palomino Buttes	7019
Virginia Valley	5316	Sand Hollow	7020
Venator	5594	Silvies River	7033
Beaver Creek	5600	Hayes	7036
West Warm Springs	7001	Forks of Poison Creek	7049

Grazing Permit/Lease Renewals

Grazing permits or leases are scheduled to expire between February 28, 2003 and September 30, 2006, in the following allotments. Allotments are listed if the permit/lease for any permittee is expiring. There may be other permittees in an allotment whose permits or leases are not expiring. The required NEPA analysis will be prepared prior to renewal of these permits. There were 28 permits reissued in FY02.

Allotments with permits expiring in 2003 are:

#5101 - Devine Ridge	#5518 - Newell Field	#7026 - Horton Mill
#5105 - Camp Harney	#5520 - Little Upson	#7028 - Stinger Creek
#5106 - Cow Creek	#5534 - Mahon Creek	#7029 - Spring Creek
#5221 - West Davies	#5563 - Arnold's FFR	#7030 - Skull Creek
#5223 - East Davies	#5584 - Poison Creek	#7034 - Scat Field
#5301 - Princeton	#5585 - Harney Crane	#7036 - Hayes
#5306 - Rocky Ford	#5588 - Reed FFR	#7043 - Lone Pine
#5316 - Virginia Valley	#5597 - Crane	#7049 - Forks of Poison Creek
#5325 - Marshall Diamond	#7002 - West Warm Springs	#7052 - Lone Pine Fields
#5502 - Rock Creek	#7007 - Hat Butte	
#5504 - State Field		

Allotments with permits expiring in 2004 are:

#4126 - Abraham's Draw	#5543 - Devine Flat Field	#7002 - West Warm Springs
#5507 - Little Muddy Creek	#5546 - Druitt Field and FFR	#7005 - Second Flat
#5524 - Dawson Butte	#5551 - Lillard's FFR	#7019 - Palomino Buttes
#5529 - House Butte	#5552 - Miller FFR A	#7023 - West Sagehen
#5532 - Mountain	#5553 - Miller FFR B	#7024 - East Sagehen
#5535 - Miller Canyon	#5560 - Vickers' FFR	#7026 - Horton Mill
#5539 - W&C Blaylock FFR	#5571 - Lamb Ranch	#7033 - Silvies River
#5540 - Luce Field	#5600 - Beaver Creek	#7040 - Landing Creek
		#7046 - Baker Hill

Allotments with permits expiring in 2005 are:

#4138 - White	#5556 - Pine Creek FFR	#7032 - Hotchkiss
#5202 - Hunter	#5566 - Texaco Basin	#7043 - Lone Pine
#5203 - Catterson	#5593 - Slocum	#7044 - Cowing
#5303 - Dry Lake	#7001 - East Warm Springs	#7047 - Peabody
#5503 - Pine Creek	#7004 - West Wagontire	#7048 - Varien Canyon
#5512 - Clark's River	#7009 - Dry Lake	#7049 - Forks of Poison Creek
#5529 - House Butte	#7016 - Juniper Ridge	#7051 - Sawtooth MNF
#5532 - Mountain	#7025 - Gouldin	#7059 - Carp
#5537 - Buck Mountain	#7030 - Skull Creek	#7063 - Roundtop Butte

Allotments with permits expiring in 2006 are:

#5003 - Malheur Slough	#5328 - Fisher FFR	#5548 - Griffin FFR
#5101 - Devine Ridge	#5330 - Barnes Well	#5559 - Sword's FFR
#5102 - Prather Creek	#5331 - Smyth-Kiger	#5561 - Wilber FFR
#5217 - Thompson FFR	#5510 - Jones Dripp	#5568 - Byron's FFR
#5218 - Bennett FFR	#5511 - Moffet Table	#4473 - Beaver FFR
#5301 - Princeton	#5513 - Shelley	#5577 - Cooper Field FFR
#5306 - Rocky Ford	#5514 - Coal Mine Creek	#5586 - Catterson Sec. 13
#5309 - Happy Valley	#5527 - Riverside FFR	#5589 - Temple FFR
#5310 - Riddle Mountain	#5532 - Mountain	#5595 - Coyote Creek
#5316 - Virginia Valley	#5533 - Buchanan	#5596 - Emmerson
#5323 - Clemens' FFR	#5536 - Alder Creek	#5599 - Mahon Ranch
#5324 - Riddle FFR	#5537 - Buck Mountain	#5601 - Hamilton
#5326 - Jenkins' N. Lake	#5538 - Riverside	#5604 - Burnt Flat
#5327 - Jenkins' B. Flat	#5541 - Home Ranch Enclosure	#7043 - Lone Pine
		#7045 - Whiting

FY02 Accomplishments

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
4098	East Creek-Pine Hill	M	An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that the resource objectives identified in the Allotment Management Plan (AMP) are being met. These objectives are to: maintain forage production on public land at 373 Allotment Unit Month (AUMs), change the range condition in the west half of the Section 34 Pasture from a declining trend to an upward trend over the next 10 years, and improve the ecological condition of East Creek from poor to fair by maintaining an upward trend in willow and herbaceous cover. Trend was found to be upward or stable. Riparian monitoring showed and upward trend in riparian vegetation. The standards for upland watershed function, riparian watershed function, ecological processes, and native, Threatened and Endangered (T&E), and locally important species have been met. There has been no water quality monitoring completed to analyze that standard. The grazing system conforms to the guidelines for livestock grazing management.
5103	Lime Kiln	M	Approximately 250 acres of juniper were cut to release brush, grass, and juniper.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
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***I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial**

5101	Devine Ridge	M	<p>An AMP was prepared to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation of 2001 and address the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns include forage allocations for elk, Special Status Species, water quality, riparian or aquatic habitat, and range condition. The objectives developed in the AMP are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> cause an upward trend in the early and mid-seral stage of big sagebrush/Thurber's needlegrass-Idaho fescue range sites, and mid-seral stage of low sagebrush/Sandberg's bluegrass range sites while maintaining those same range sites in late seral stage, over the next 10 years; cause an upward trend in the stands of bitterbrush in the Ridge and Prather Creek Pastures by ensuring at least a 1:1 ration of seedling and young to dead and decadent plants over the next 10 years; increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage-grouse from April through mid-May; and determine trend in riparian habitat on Prather Creek over the next 10 years, keeping in mind that the presence of water in Prather Creek is intermittent and in most years consists of a few isolated pools. <p>A grazing system has been designed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p> <p>The selective management category has not yet been changed to an 'I' as recommended in the evaluation.</p>
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Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
5106	Cow Creek	I	<p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that one of the objectives identified in the AMP has not been met, and no monitoring has been completed to determine progress toward the other two. The system identified in the AMP has not been followed, although treatments used follow the guidelines for livestock grazing management. Monitoring indicates a static or downward trend in the allotment. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health found that the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and native, Special Status, and locally important species were met. The standard for riparian watershed function was not met, and the standard for water quality had no information to evaluate. The determination was that livestock was not a significant factor in the failure to meet the riparian standard due to the intermittent nature of the stream. The evaluation recommended revising the AMP and incorporate a new grazing system that the permittee will follow.</p> <p>The AMP was revised to incorporate the recommendation from the allotment management evaluation and address the conflicts and concern identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflict and concerns include water quality, elk forage allocation, riparian and aquatic habitat, Special Status Species, and range condition. The objectives developed for the AMP are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> cause an upward trend, within the next 10 years, in the low and mid-seral big sagebrush/cheatgrass, Wyoming big sagebrush/cheatgrass, mountain big sagebrush/bluebunch wheatgrass, and low sagebrush/bluegrass sites; increase the availability and production of upland forbs for sage-grouse from April through mid-July in the allotment every year; and cause an upward trend in the riparian and wetland habitat conditions on Cow Creek. <p>A grazing system has been designed which will meet this objective. Key forage species and utilization levels have been identified for the allotment.</p>

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
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***I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial**

5300	Alkali	M	This allotment was allocated to permittees identified in previous land use planning processes. This allotment will continue to be used to: provide rest to native range prior to or after planned prescribed burning; rest native range due to wildfire; rest allotments to meet riparian objectives; rest allotments to meet Special Status Species objectives; or other management action being implemented to address the Standards for Rangeland Health.
5310	Riddle Mountain	I	Five hundred sixty-four acres of juniper were cut to release brush, grass, and forbs.
5316	Virginia Valley	M	Approximately 20 miles of pipeline was reconstructed.
5329	Riddle-Coyote	I	Approximately 230 acres of juniper were cut to release brush, grass, and forbs.
5331	Smyth-Kiger	I	Approximately 951 acres of juniper were cut to release brush, grass, and forbs.
5503	Pine Creek	I	Approximately 232 acres of juniper were cut to release brush, grass, and forbs.
5512	Clark's River	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5516	Birch Creek	M	Approximately 100 acres were burned in prescribed fire.
5517	Otis Mountain	I	Approximately 254 acres were burned in prescribed fire.
5518	Newell Field	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5519	Big Upson Field	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5520	Little Upson	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
5529	House Butte	M	<p>The AMP was revised to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address the conflicts and concerns identified the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns include the Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC and sage-grouse. The objectives developed for the AMP are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> maintain 5,082 acres currently in late seral stage and cause an upward trend on 19,389 acres currently in mid-seral stage to provide habitat and forage for big game and livestock in the following amounts over the next 6 years: 107 AUMs for mule deer, 6 AUMs for pronghorn antelope, 2,085 AUMs for livestock; maintain the availability and production of upland forbs for sage-grouse from May to mid-July each year in the South Upper Pasture and every other year in the North Upper and South Lower Pastures during the next evaluation period; and maintain or enhance habitats containing economically important root species and their associated plant communities within the Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC to provide for traditional camping and root gathering activities by contemporary American Indians. <p>A grazing system has been designed which will meet these objectives. Key forage species and utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p>
5536	Alder Creek	I	<p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that the system outlined in the AMP is generally being followed and resource objectives are being met except in the Mountain Pasture where trend is static rather than up. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health found that all standards are being met and management is following the Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management. The evaluation recommends modifying the grazing system, controlling juniper encroachment, and additional monitoring.</p> <p>Approximately 606 acres of juniper were cut to release brush, grass, and forbs.</p>
5541	Home Ranch Exclosure	C	<p>An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.</p>

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
5542	Marshall FFR	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5546	Druit Field and FFR	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5547	Lake Field	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5548	Howard's FFR	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5550	Jordan's FFR	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5554	J. Francis Miller FFR	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5556	Pine Creek FFR	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5558	J&G FFR	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5562	Williams' FFR	C	All public land in this allotment has been sold into private ownership. A grazing decision was issued which eliminated the grazing permit in this allotment. This allotment no longer exists as a BLM grazing allotment.
5568	Byron's FFR	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5569	Floyd's FFR	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5571	Lamb Ranch	M	An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that the grazing system is working well to maintain upland conditions and monitoring had not been updated to determine riparian condition. There have been observations of medusahead rye (<i>Elymus caput-medusae</i>) beginning to invade the allotment. Results show that resource objectives and Standards for Rangeland Health are being met. Grazing is in conformance with the guidelines for livestock grazing management. The evaluation recommends that the selective management category be changed to 'M.'

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
5585	Harney-Crane	C	Exclosure fences were constructed around the Columbia Cress sites on public land in this allotment to protect them from livestock trampling.
5589	Temple's FFR	C	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
5593	Slocum	M	The majority of this allotment burned in a wildfire in July. Approximately 890 acres of public and 1,400 acres of private land were burned.
5597	Crane	M	<p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that the resource objectives identified in the AMP are being met. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health show the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes and native, T&E, and locally important species have been met and the standards for riparian watershed function and water quality are not present. The evaluation recommends continuing the current grazing system and decreasing the livestock active use to reflect the sale of public land within the allotment.</p> <p>The AMP was revised to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation. The objective developed for the AMP is to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">maintain the areas that are in good condition within the Rim, Middle, and Antelope Pastures which improving the areas that are in poor to fair condition to good condition in the Antelope Pasture.</p> <p>The grazing system is designed to meet this objective. Key forage species and utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p> <p>A grazing decision was issued which reduced the grazing permit to reflect the sale of public land within the allotment.</p>

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
5601	Hamilton	I	<p>The AMP was revised to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation and address the conflicts and concerns identified in the Three Rivers RMP. The conflicts and concerns included range condition and big game habitat. The objectives developed in the AMP are to:</p> <p>achieve an upward trend on all fair condition low sagebrush/bluegrass and big sagebrush/bluegrass plant communities in the West Pasture; and maintain the areas in good condition or better in the State and South Pastures.</p> <p>maintain the availability and production of upland forbs for sage-grouse from May to mid-July each year.</p> <p>A grazing system has been designed which will meet the Hamilton Allotment objectives. Key forage species and utilization levels have been identified for each pasture.</p>
7002	West Warm Springs	I	<p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that the resource objectives are not being met. Livestock rate is in excess of carrying capacity. Trend varies from static to up. Riparian condition is upward inside the exclosures and downward elsewhere. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health indicate that the standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes and native, T&E species and locally important species is being met, the standard for riparian and playa watershed function is not being met and livestock are a significant factor, and the standard for water quality is not present. The guidelines for livestock grazing management are not being followed. The evaluation recommends that the stocking rate be reduced to carrying capacity and a grazing system be developed and incorporated into an AMP. Additional monitoring is also indicated.</p> <p>Fire rehabilitation treatments for the Big Stick and Double O Fires were implemented in this allotment. The burned areas were fenced to exclude livestock and wild horses and approximately 8,800 acres were seeded.</p>
7004	West Wagontire	I	<p>Approximately 2,000 acres of Wyoming big sagebrush was brush beat in this allotment. The result is a patchwork of uneven age stands.</p>

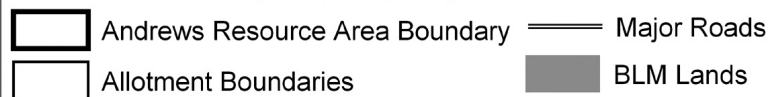
Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
7020	Sand Hollow	I	An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that the resource objectives identified in the RMP are generally being met. There is no grazing system established for this allotment. The standards for upland watershed function, ecological processes, and native, T&E, and locally important species are being met, and the standards for riparian watershed function and water quality are not present. The present management conforms with the guidelines for livestock grazing management. The evaluation recommends that a grazing system be developed and incorporated into an AMP, the selective management category be changed to an 'I', and additional monitoring plots be established.
7025	Horton Mill	I	Approximately 26 acres of juniper were cut to release brush, grass, and forbs.
7030	Skull Creek	I	Approximately 501 acres of juniper were cut to release brush, grass, and forbs.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
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*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial

7033	Silvies Canyon	M	<p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze, interpret, and evaluate whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. Results indicate that the grazing system has not been followed due to trespass. The resource objective has not been met. The standards for upland watershed function, ecological function, and native, Special Status, and locally important species have been met. The standard for riparian watershed function has not been met and the determination is that livestock are a significant factor. There has been no data collected to determine status of the water quality standard. The evaluation recommends that the boundary and pasture fences be repaired to alleviate the grazing trespass problem.</p> <p>The AMP was revised to incorporate the recommendations from the allotment management evaluation. The objectives developed for the AMP are to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">maintain the late seral stage in the mountain big sagebrush/bluebunch wheatgrass vegetation type, and cause an upward trend in the poor condition early and mid-seral tufted hairgrass shrubby cinquefoil, and Douglas fir/bluegrass vegetation types; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">cause an upward trend in the riparian habitat condition along this section of the Silvies River.</p> <p>A grazing system has been designed which will meet this objective. Key forage species and utilization levels have been identified for the allotment.</p>
7040	Landing Creek	I	Approximately 191 acres of juniper were cut to release brush, grass, and forbs.
7043	Lone Pine	I	Four hundred thirty-five acres of juniper were cut to release brush, grass, and forbs.
7056	Double O	M	An assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health was conducted. All standards present have been met.
7063	Roundtop Butte	I	The permittee constructed a well to provide livestock water.

Andrews Resource Area Range Allotments Burns District BLM



US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
Burns District, Oregon

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Andrews Resource Area

FY03 Plans

During FY03, monitoring data will be analyzed, interpreted, and evaluated to document the progress of management to meet resource objectives for the following allotments. An assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health will be included in the evaluation.

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Allotment Number
Pollock*	6011	Chimney*	6033
Alvord*	6012	Dunbar FFR	6111
Keg Springs	6029	Pollock FFR	6119
Reicken's Corner	6030	Neushwander FFR	6121
Alvord FFR			

* Started FY02 but not completed.

AMPs will be developed or revised for the following allotments:

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Allotment Number
Pollock	6011	Keg Springs	6029
Reicken's Corner	6030	Stonehouse	6040
Lavoy Tables	6031		

Grazing Permit/Lease Renewals

Eight grazing permits were renewed in FY02. An EA was deferred until the Standards and Guidelines evaluation is completed. Grazing permits or leases will expire between February 28, 2002 and September 30, 2006 in the allotments listed below. There may be other permittees in an allotment whose permits or leases are not expiring this year.

Allotments with permits expiring in 2003 are:

#6007 - Ruby Springs
#6010 - East Ridge
#6033 - Chimney
#6117 - Kaser FFR

Allotments with permits expiring in 2004 are:

#6001 - North Catlow	#6025 - Hardie Summer	#6114 - Rock Creek FFR
#6002 – South Steens	#6028 – Miners Field	#6121 – Neushewander FFR
#6005 - Mud Creek	#6029 - Keg Springs	#6125 Roaring Springs FFR
#6007 - Ruby Springs	#6030 - Reicken's Corner	#6126 Otley FFR
#6015 - Trout Creek Mountain	#6100 - Hammond FFR	#6128 - Konek FFR
#6023 - Hammond	#6111 - Dunbar FFR	#6130 - Scharff FFR

Allotments with permits expiring in 2005 are:

#6011 – Pollock
#6119 – Pollock FFR

Allotments with permits expiring in 2006 are:

No permits expire this year.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
6002	South Steens	I	<p>The land exchange with Roaring Springs Ranch, Inc., authorized by the Steens Act was completed in February 2002. To complete this exchange permitted grazing use and allotment boundaries were adjusted to conform to the changes in the landownership pattern. The land exchange outlined in Section 601 and Section 113 Forage Replacement (3) (c) of the Steens Act created three allotments from the reduced public land base where grazing will continue and the addition of the Bone Creek Pasture, portions of Miners Field Pasture and Schouver Flat seeding. The new allotments are South Steens (6002) what remains of the contiguous public land base where grazing will continue), South Catlow (6041), and Alvord Peaks (6038). The 2003 grazing season is the last time grazing will be authorized in the livestock free wilderness. The Catlow Redband and Catlow Tui Chub Conservation Agreement and Strategy was extended for 1-year during 2002. The agreement will be reviewed by cooperating parties to determine if the agreement will continue.</p> <p>The Tombstone Pasture fence, cattleguard, three waterholes, and Burnt Car fence were completed in 2002 as part of the Steens Act implementation. The Bradeen Crossing and Eusabio fence and cattleguard needed to implement the livestock free wilderness as analyzed in EA OR-027-01-27 will have a proposed decision issued during FY03.</p>
6003	Fish Creek-Big Indian	I	The 2003 grazing season will be the last year livestock are authorized to graze in this allotment. Following the 2003 grazing season the grazing permit will be cancelled as outlined in Section 113 (e) (2) of the Steens Act.
6007	Ruby Springs	I	On June 29, 2001, the land exchange with C.M. Otley was completed as described in Section 602 of the Steens Act. This exchange resulted in a grazing permit change and an allotment boundary change within Ruby Springs Allotment. Pasture 2 (Frazer Lake seeding) was transferred to private ownership and removed from the Ruby Springs Allotment.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
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6010	East Ridge	I	<p>The East Ridge prescribed burns and juniper cuts (EA OR-026-99-19) are continuing in the mid-canyon of Kiger Gorge. During September 2001, prescribed burns were completed on the east side of mid-canyon of Kiger Gorge. Currently, 575 acres of juniper on public land on the west slope of mid-canyon is being cut to prepare the area for the reintroduction of fire. The prescribed burn for this area is planned for the fall of 2003. The mid-canyon of Kiger Gorge continues to be rested from livestock grazing to allow plant communities to recover from the 2001 prescribed burn.</p> <p>In June 2001 and April 2002, the land exchanges outlined in Section 602 of the Steens Act were completed. To complete these exchanges permitted use and the allotment boundaries were adjusted to conform to the changes in the landownership pattern.</p> <p>The 2003 grazing season is the last year livestock will be authorized to graze in the head of Kiger Gorge. Following this season the portion of the grazing permit for the head of Kiger Gorge will be cancelled as outlined in Section 113 (e) (2) of the Steens Act. The fence in Kiger Gorge (EA OR-027-01-27) will be constructed this year.</p>
6011	Pollock	I	The evaluation of rangeland monitoring data and existing conditions was started in FY02. This assessment and determination of conformance with the Standards for Rangeland Health is in process. An AMP will also be started this year.
6012	Alvord	I	In FY02, additional rangeland trend in condition data was collected to prepare for the Analysis, Interpretation, Evaluation and the Assessment of the Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Management planned for completion during FY03.
6014	Tum Tum	I	During the fall of 2002, 1-mile of water pipeline and a trough were placed in the North Tum Tum Pasture. The pipeline runs from an existing well in the south end of the pasture and will serve to better arrange the watering sources in that area for the winter grazing period.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
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6015	Trout Creek Mountain	I	<p>Management under the current AMP continues to contribute to an upward trend in riparian areas. Completion of Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) assessment in 1999 found the majority of streams in the allotment to be in PFC. Yearly tours with interested public continue to result in favorable comment on the allotment condition and trend.</p> <p>An EA will be developed in 2003 for proposed construction of approximately 2 miles of fence in the Stoney Pasture. This fence will combine a small portion of the Stoney Pasture with the Chalk Canyon seeding pasture. This pasture realignment will allow livestock to be moved into the upland portion of the Mahogany Ridge Pasture. The only current access to the pasture is up the Big Trout Creek drainage. This change in livestock access should result in further improvement to this segment of Big Trout Creek.</p> <p>A rangeline agreement will be developed in 2003 between the Trout Creek Mountain Allotment permittees and the Andrews Field Manager to facilitate the creation of a new allotment out of the Lower Antelope Pasture. This pasture is currently part of the Trout Creek Mountain Allotment, but is utilized in the winter by a separate livestock permittee. The pasture does not contain any of the riparian concerns associated with the rest of the allotment. The proposed separation would help to clarify resource issues and management objectives for the BLM, livestock permittees, and interested publics.</p>
6016	Sandhills	M	<p>An allotment evaluation was conducted in 2001 to analyze whether or not present management is meeting resource objectives. The results indicate that the grazing system has been followed. The assessment of Standards for Rangeland Health found that the standards for upland watershed function and ecological processes have been achieved. The standards for riparian/wetland watershed function have been achieved. The standards for native, Special Status, and locally important species have been achieved. The standards for water quality were not apparent. The evaluation recommended an increase of 373 AUMs in the crested wheatgrass seedings for use after seed ripe and some additional fencing to control the movement of livestock. This evaluation included the Lupher and Henrick's FFR.</p>

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
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6020	Pueblo-Lone Mountain	I	<p>Grazing use according to the Pueblo-Lone Mountain AMP continues to result in improve upland meadow and riparian conditions. Continued protection of Van Horn Creek, through intensive livestock permittee efforts, is contributing to improved riparian and aquatic conditions for the resident Lahontan cutthroat trout. In 2001, all segments of Van Horn Creek achieved Oregon DEQ water temperature standards, a significant milestone for this drainage.</p> <p>Following reconstruction of the Rincon Pipeline in 2001, a brushbeating project was completed in the Rincon seedings in 2002. This was an implementation project from the AMP. Improved livestock distribution and water availability resulting from the pipeline reconstruction helped to significantly reduce late-season livestock access into the Pueblo Ridge Pasture, which contains all the riparian resources within the allotment. Improved forage availability created by the brushbeating project should serve to further enhance grazing management and livestock distribution.</p> <p>A rangeline agreement will be developed in 2003 between the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment permittees and the Andrews Field Manager to facilitate the creation of two new allotments out of several pastures currently contained within the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment. The first separation would be to create a new allotment out of the pastures located in the Pueblo Valley, east of the Fields-Denio Road. These pastures are grazed in the winter and are not a part of the grazing rotation system designed to address the riparian concerns in the Pueblo Mountain area. The second allotment division would create a new allotment out of the Basque Hills Pasture, which is a large, dry pasture located on the northwest side of the Pueblo-Lone Mountain Allotment. This pasture is used by a separate livestock permittee, contains no riparian resources, and is not part of the riparian grazing rotation system. Both allotment divisions would help to clarify resource issues and management objectives for the BLM, livestock permittees, and interested publics.</p>
6026	Mann Lake	I	<p>An allotment management evaluation was conducted to analyze the monitoring data and existing condition to determine if present management is meeting objectives. Results indicate that the AMP objectives and the Standards of Rangeland Health have been met.</p>

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
*I = Improve; M = Maintain; C = Custodial			
6028	Miners Field	I	This allotment no longer exists, the pastures which made up this allotment have been combined with other allotments (see South Steens, Fields Basin, and Fields Allotments for more details). The Steens Act, Section 113 (3) (A) (B) (C) outlines the reallocation of the available forage in this allotment.
6028	Fields	I	This is a new allotment created by the Steens Act. This allotment was created out of a portion of what was formerly known as the Miners Field Allotment. Fencing and water development were completed in 2002 in order to allow grazing in the newly-created allotment. These projects included Miners Field South Fence and the O'Keefe Pipeline, all of which were analyzed in the Steens Implementation Projects EA OR-027-01-27. Development of a grazing management strategy for the allotment will begin in 2003.
6034	West Slope	I	On June 29, 2001, the land exchange with C.M. Otley was completed as described in Section 602 of the Steens Act. As a result of this exchange the West Slope Allotment was changed to FFR with 668 acres which equals 8 percent of the allotment remaining public land. The public land grazing permit for this FFR is 152 AUMs.

Allotment Number	Allotment Name	Category*	Implementation Progress
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6035	Fields Basin	I	<p>The Fields Basin Allotment underwent a pasture reconfiguration as a result of the Steens Act. The majority of the acreage within the Long Hollow Pasture was transferred into private ownership as a result of legislated land exchanges. The O’Keefe Pasture, which was previously a part of the Miners Field Allotment, was added to the Fields Basin Allotment to help offset the loss of forage caused by the land exchanges.</p> <p>The O’Keefe well and pipeline were constructed in 2002, after analysis in the Steens Implementation Projects EA OR-027-01-27, to provide livestock water within the pasture. Prior to this development, the only water available in the pasture was from an intermittent stream which had been damaged from previous livestock use. The pipeline provides adequate livestock water at upland locations, which will alleviate livestock pressure on Pass Creek. The pipeline will also provide water to two of the pastures in the newly-created Fields Allotment.</p> <p>Grazing use in the new pasture will begin in 2003. An interim rotation system will be developed and implemented for 3 to 4 years, before beginning the allotment evaluation process in Fields basin. The 3 to 4-year interim period will be used to assess the integration of the new pasture into the current grazing rotation system and to monitor vegetation response to grazing management within the new pasture and throughout the allotment.</p>
6040	Stonehouse	I	<p>In 2001, the Interior Board of Land Appeals confirmed the Field Manager’s decision to conduct 3,600 acres of prescribed burns on public land within the Stonehouse Allotment. In October 2001 the prescribed burns on Paddle meadows were completed. In September 2002 the remainder of the prescribed burns outlined in EA OR-026-99-47 were successfully completed.</p> <p>The EA/AMP was coordinated with the SMAC and this group provided a recommendation to proceed with a modified proposed action. The EA/AMP with the FONSI and Proposed Decision will be provided to the interested publics that commented on the EA/AMP in 2000. A determination on the Oregon Natural Desert Association proposal for this area to be considered for Wilderness Study Area (WSA) has postponed action on the Stonehouse AMP/EA, Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and Proposed Decision.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REGISTER

The following are Environmental Assessments (EAs) which were scheduled but were not completed and new EAs recently initiated. The EAs for these projects are expected to be completed in FY03. A notice is published in the Burns Times-Herald when each new EA is available for review by the public and the date when the comment period ends. The EA will also be posted on the Web site.

Additional EAs, not currently scheduled, may be initiated throughout the year. Examples of these are EAs for Special Recreation Permits (SRPs), motorized access into the Steens Wilderness Area, etc. If you would like copies of these or other unscheduled EAs, let us know.

If you would like to be involved in the planning process for any particular project or would simply like to receive a copy of an EA for review, note the EA register number and contact the District or the project's primary contact listed below. This should be done as early as possible to allow for full consideration of your input.

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/ Decision/ Action
* 020 = Burns District, 025 = Three Rivers Resource Area, 026 = Andrews Resource Area, 027 = Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area					
EA OR-020-03-036 Primary Contact: Evelyn Treiman	Broken Trails SRP	The proposed action is to issue a special recreation use permit authorization. The purpose of this action is to allow continuation of the SRP's hunting, fishing, and tour activities through the completion of the RMP.	Districtwide	Wilderness, WSA, ACECs, WSRs, Birds, Weeds, T&E Species, Riparian, Cultural	EA initiated February 7, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-020-03-037 Primary Contact: Evelyn Treiman	Oregon Llamas SRP	The proposed action is to issue a special recreation use permit authorization. The purpose of this action is to allow continuation of the SRP's llama treks and fishing activities through the completion of the RMP.	Districtwide	Wilderness, WSA, ACECs, WSRs, Birds, Weeds, T&E Species, Riparian, Cultural	EA initiated February 7, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-020-03-038 Primary Contact: Evelyn Treiman	Steens Mountain Packers SRP	The proposed action is to issue a special recreation use permit authorization. The purpose of this action is to allow continuation of the SRP's current activities through the completion of the RMP.	Districtwide	Wilderness, WSA, ACECs, WSRs, Birds, Weeds, T&E Species, Riparian, Cultural	EA initiated February 7, 2003. EA is in progress.

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/ Decision/ Action
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EA OR-020-03-039 Primary Contact: Evelyn Treiman	High Desert Outfitters SRP	<p>The proposed action is to issue a special recreation use permit authorization.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to allow continuation of the SRP's hunting, fishing, and tour activities through the completion of the RMP.</p>	Districtwide	Wilderness, WSA, ACECs, WSRs, Birds, Weeds, T&E Species, Riparian, Cultural	<p>EA initiated February 7, 2003.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>
EA OR-020-03-040 Primary Contact: Evelyn Treiman	Brett Jantze Guiding Service SRP	<p>The proposed action is to issue a special recreation use permit authorization.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to allow continuation of the SRP's hunting activities through the completion of the RMP.</p>	Districtwide	Wilderness, WSA, ACECs, WSRs, Birds, Weeds, T&E Species, Riparian, Cultural	<p>EA initiated February 7, 2003.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>
EA OR-020-03-041 Primary Contact: Evelyn Treiman	Pro Hunting and Fishing SRP	<p>The proposed action is to issue a special recreation use permit authorization.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to allow continuation of the SRP's scouting, hunting, and fishing activities through the completion of the RMP.</p>	Districtwide	Wilderness, WSA, ACECs, WSRs, Birds, Weeds, T&E Species, Riparian, Cultural	<p>EA initiated February 7, 2003.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>
EA OR-020-03-042 Primary Contact: Evelyn Treiman	Spot Country Outfitters SRP	<p>The proposed action is to issue a special recreation use permit authorization.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to allow continuation of the SRP's hunting activities through the completion of the RMP.</p>	Districtwide	Wilderness, WSA, ACECs, WSRs, Birds, Weeds, T&E Species, Riparian, Cultural	<p>EA initiated February 7, 2003.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>

EA Register Number	Project Name	Proposed Action	Location	Critical Element	Completion Date/ Decision/ Action
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EA OR-025-99-014 Primary Contact: Jon Reponen	Newell Forest Health Project	<p>The proposed action is to reduce road density, to reconstruct road segments causing sedimentation into creeks, to rehabilitate riparian areas, to improve aspen and mountain mahogany stands, to reduce hazardous fuel loadings, to improve forest health through stocking control by using precommercial thinning and harvesting of commercial size material.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to improve water quality, to reduce the risk of wildfire, to improve wildfire habitat, and to improve the health and vigor of the area's timber stands.</p>	East side of Silvies Valley	Riparian	EA complete February 2000. Decision Record is pending.
EA OR-025-99-017 Primary Contact: Jim King	Stinkingwater Allotment Water Development	<p>The proposed action is to develop three springs and build approximately 3 miles of barbed-wire fence.</p> <p>The purposes of these actions are to improve livestock distribution and protect spring sources and clear creek riparian area.</p>	Stinkingwater Allotment	Biscuitroot Cultural ACEC	EA complete. Decision Record signed February 4, 2003.
EA OR-025-00-37 Primary Contact: Eric Haakenson	Venator AMP and 10-Year Permit	<p>The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.</p>	Venator Allotment	None	EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-01-01 Primary Contact: Jim King	Thorn Springs Reservoir Construction and Exclosure	<p>The proposed action is to develop a reservoir for wildlife/ livestock and to fence spring.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to protect riparian habitat and to improve the wetland species.</p>	T. 26 S., R. 28 E., Sec. 29	None	Project dropped.

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EA OR-025-01-04 Primary Contact: Skip Renchler	Wright's Point Communication Site Management Plan	The proposed action is to construct a 10-foot by 12-foot building with a 30-foot antenna for low power. The purpose of this action is to improve communication system for the Burns District BLM and USFS.	T. 24 W., R. 31 E., Sec. 33 or 35	None	EA is complete. Decision pending.
EA OR-025-01-17 Primary Contact: Doug Linn	Ecological Health Restoration	The proposed action is to reduce hazardous fuels in juniper cutting areas through mechanical treatments. The purpose of this action is to reintroduce the natural role of fire into fire dependent plant communities to restore watershed health, wildlife habitat and ecological processes.	Various areas within the Three Rivers Resource Area	None	EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-01-25 Primary Contact: Jon Reponen	West Silvies Valley Prescribed Burns	The proposed action is to conduct a prescribed burn on approximately 2,000 acres. The purpose of this action is to improve health and vigor of overstory trees, to provide for establishment of ponderosa pine, and to reduce risk of high intensity wildfire.	Silvies Valley	None	Decision Record was signed September 1, 2001. Project was implemented.
EA OR-025-01-37 Primary Contact: Bill Andersen	Rams Butte Well/ Pipeline and Paul Well Pipeline	The proposed action is to drill a well and to bury 2 miles of pipeline. The purpose of this action is to improve livestock/wildlife water and to provide better distribution to livestock.	T. 27 S., R. 23 E.	None	Decision pending.
EA OR-025-02-028 Primary Contact: Eric Haakenson	Hamilton AMP/ Term Grazing Permit	The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit. The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.	Crane-Venator Area	WSA	EA initiated January 2, 2002. Record of Decision signed March 27, 2002.

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EA OR-025-02-029 Primary Contact: Jim King	Yank Creek Exclosure and Spring Development	<p>The proposed actions are to construct approximately 3 miles of four strand barbed wire fences to meet wildlife standards, construct approximately 1/3 mile of livestock panel fence for wild horses and livestock watering on Yank Creek and, construct approximately 1/2 mile of fence around Mesteno spring.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to Protect Yank Springs, Mesteno Spring and Yank Creek Riparian areas from livestock and wild horse use.</p>	Yank Creek	Kiger HMA	<p>EA is completed.</p> <p>Decision Record signed January 9, 2003.</p>
EA OR-025-02-030 Primary Contact: Jim King	Landing Creek Habitat Improvement	<p>The proposed actions are to construct approximately 1 mile of new fence, reconstruct approximately 7 miles of fence, 300 Acres of juniper control, and one spring development.</p> <p>The purposes of these actions are to improve the riparian areas of Landing Creek, Squaw Creek, and Cherry Springs, and to improve Aspen stands in the area.</p>	Landing Creek and Silvies River	None	<p>EA initiated March 4, 2002.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>
EA OR-025-02-048 Primary Contact: Willie Street	Packsaddle Allotment Projects	<p>The proposed actions are to realign portions of the existing pasture fences to improve livestock management within the allotment and to develop spring sources to protect the spring source and provide water for wildlife and livestock.</p> <p>The purpose of these actions is to improve management in the Wickiup Pasture and improve riparian and meadow conditions. Development and protection of springs would reduce livestock impacts to spring sources.</p>	Wickiup Creek/ Mineral Canyon	None	<p>EA initiated June 11, 2002.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>

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EA OR-025-02-063 Primary Contact: Terri Geisler	Green Obsidian Plan of Operations	<p>The proposed action is to conduct small-scale mining for several years using an excavator and 5 cubic-yard dump truck, May to October, within a 20-acre claim area; each excavation would be refilled within 5 days of initial excavation, overburden would be piled within 50 feet of the excavation and is expected to consists of less than 100 cubic yards at any one time; no blasting.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to permit a mining claimant to operate a small-scale mine on his mining claim.</p>	Skull Creek Road north of Burns	None	EA initiated September 17, 2002. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-005 Primary Contact: Doug Linn	Wyoming Sagebrush Beating for Fuel Breaks	<p>The proposed action is to reduce fuels adjacent to existing roads to optimize suppression of wildfire in Wyoming big sagebrush communities which are important sage-grouse habitat (and other sagebrush obligate species). The project area encompasses about 600,000 acres of Wyoming big sagebrush habitats, with approximately 2 percent of that area to be treated (if fully implemented).</p> <p>The purposes of this action are to increase the likelihood of containment of wildfire in Wyoming big sagebrush; to protect areas of high resource value from catastrophic wildfire; to attempt to minimize wildlife and Bureau sensitive species habitat loss; and to reduce the cost of rehabilitation by reducing the size of wildfires.</p>	Glass Butte, Harney Lake (South of Highway 20 and east and west of Highway 395 about 20 miles)	None	EA initiated December 12, 2002. EA is in progress.

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EA OR-025-03-007 Primary Contact: Eric Haakenson	Whiskey Pine Springs Project	<p>The proposed actions are to thin juniper trees and construct an aspen exclosure and a spring development.</p> <p>The purposes of this project are to improve the aspen stands by cutting the juniper trees, fence out grazing animals, and develop water for wildlife and livestock.</p>	WM T. 22 S., R. 32 E., Sec. 2, Whiskey Pine Spring Project	None	<p>EA initiated December 18, 2002.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>
EA OR-025-03-009 Primary Contact: Willie Street	Drinkwater Permit Renewal	<p>The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.</p>	East at Silvies Rim	None	<p>EA initiated January 6, 2003.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>
EA OR-025-03-010 Primary Contact: Nick Miller	Coleman Creek/ Fir Gulch Fuel Reduction	<p>The proposed actions are a combination of thinning, raking duff, piling fuel, and pile burning. A maximum of 397 acres would be treated.</p> <p>The purposes of these actions are to reduce surface fuel loading, reduce over-stocked Douglas-fir stands to improve overall forest health, reduce the risk of stand replacing fires, and maintain the health and vigor of the area's larger trees.</p>	Stinkingwater Mountains T19S, R31E, Sec. 1 and 2.	None	<p>EA initiated January 16, 2003.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>
EA OR-025-03-013 Primary Contact: Jim King	Toelle Permit	<p>The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.</p>	Cow Creek	None	<p>EA initiated January 17, 2003.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>
EA OR-025-03-014 Primary Contact: Jim King	Opie Permit	<p>The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.</p>	Slocum Allotment	None	<p>EA initiated January 17, 2003.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>
EA OR-025-03-015 Primary Contact: Jim King	Reed Permit	<p>The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.</p>	Soldier Creek Allotment	None	<p>EA initiated January 17, 2003.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>

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EA OR-025-03-016 Primary Contact: Jim King	Marshall Permit	The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit. The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.	Marshall FFR	None	EA initiated January 17, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-017 Primary Contact: Joe Glascock	Borelli/Jones Dripp Springs	The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit. The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.	Drewsey/Van	Sage-grouse	EA initiated February 21, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-018 Primary Contact: Joe Glascock	Poison Creek	The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit. The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.	Silvies Valley	Riparian	EA initiated January 21, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-019 Primary Contact: Joe Glascock	Forks of Poison Creek	The proposed action is to treat 1,850 acres of juniper woodland using a combination of mechanical and prescribed fire practices. The purpose of this action is to improve the upland health of the system.	West of Devine Canyon	Sage-grouse	EA initiated January 21, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-020 Primary Contact: Joe Glascock	Devine Ridge	The proposed action is to treat 3,750 acres of juniper woodland using a combination of mechanical and prescribed fire practices. The purpose of this action is to improve the upland health of the system.	3 miles northeast of Burns	Sage-grouse	EA initiated January 21, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-021 Primary Contact: Joe Glascock	Stinger Creek	The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit. The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.	41 Road	None	EA initiated January 21, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-022 Primary Contact: Joe Glascock	Horton Mill	The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit. The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.	41 Road	None	EA initiated January 21, 2003. EA is in progress.

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EA OR-025-03-023 Primary Contact: Willie Street	Tom Davis	The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit. The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.	New Princeton	None	EA initiated January 21, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-024 Primary Contact: Michael Weston	Moffett Table	The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit. The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.	North Malheur River	Bull Trout, Bluebucket WSA	EA initiated January 22, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-025 Primary Contact: Skip Renschler	Burns Butte Shooting Range Recreation and Public Purposes (RPP) Conveyance and RMP Amendment	The proposed action is to sell 240 acres under the RPP Act to the Burns Butte Sportsman's Club for an existing shooting range currently under lease to the Club. The plan amendment would adjust the land into a disposal zone to facilitate the sale. The purposes of this action are to authorize additional expansion of the range by the Club, eliminate BLM's administration of the lease and associated buffer zone, and minimize the United States' liabilities associated with operation of the range.	Shooting Range northwest of Burns	None	EA initiated January 23, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-026 Primary Contact: Jim King	Jack Smith	The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit. The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.	West of Cow Creek	None	EA initiated January 23, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-028 Primary Contact: Eric Haakenson	Capehart Lake Reservoir	The proposed action is to construct one reservoir pond in the Capehart Lake Allotment. The purpose of this action is to provide more water for livestock.	Capehart Lake Allotment	None	EA initiated January 24, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-029 Primary Contact: Eric Haakenson	Arnold Ranches	The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit. The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.	Stinkingwater M Range	None	EA initiated January 24, 2003. EA is in progress.

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EA OR-025-03-030 Primary Contact: Doug Linn	Three Rivers Strategic Fuel Break	<p>The proposed action is to divide a major portion of the Three Rivers Resource Area into 14 strategic fuel break zones and then further divide each zone into smaller units. These zones would be defined primarily by major (and some lesser) roads and trails. These roads and trails currently function as limited fire breaks and with some additional fuels reduction treatment (100 feet on either side of the road or trail) they would be safer for firefighters, cooler in temperature and strategically more valuable to wildland fire suppression efforts.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to make populated areas, small towns, ranches, dispersed recreation sites, and other manmade resources as well as natural resources more defensible from erratic fire behavior.</p>	Entire Three Rivers	Firefighter and Public Safety, Resource Protection	EA initiated January 24, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-031 Primary Contact: Eric Haakenson	Bell A Grazing Cooperation	<p>The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.</p>	Crane	Sage-grouse	EA initiated January 27, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-032 Primary Contact: Eric Haakenson	Andy Root Spring Creek and Skull Creek	<p>The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.</p>	Skull Creek		EA initiated January 27, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-025-03-033 Primary Contact: Eric Haakenson	Andy Root State Field	<p>The proposed action is to issue a new grazing permit.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to authorize livestock grazing to continue.</p>	Stinkingwaters	Sage-grouse	EA initiated January 27, 2003. EA is in progress.

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EA OR-025-03-066 Primary Contact: Terri Geisler	Stinkingwater Road Materials Source	The proposed action is to develop a rock source. The purpose of this action is to provide rock for roads in the vicinity.	Near Warm Springs Reservoir	None	EA initiated April 21, 2003. EA is in progress.
EA OR-026-94-059 Primary Contact: Jim Buchanan	Stonehouse AMP	The proposed action is to implement a grazing system and prescribed fire on the Stonehouse Allotment. This will be based on the evaluation. The purpose of this action is to improve riparian and upland range condition and plant diversity on sagebrush and juniper-dominated sites.	T. 30 and 31 S., R. 34 and 35 E., northeast side of Steens Mountain	WSA; Riddle Creek and Headwaters of Deep Creek	Allotment evaluation was completed May 2000, revised and sent for public review March 2001. The Decision was revised to only include the prescribed fire and was appealed to IBLA. The Manager's Decision was upheld by IBLA. The prescribed burn was completed September 2002. The AMP/EA proposal was modified as recommended by the SMAC. This will be provided to the interested public who commented on the March 2002 edition, for additional comments.
EA OR-026-01-20 Primary Contact: Dave Ward	Gap Reservoir	The proposed action is to construct one-half acre foot reservoir and one-quarter mile fence. The purpose of this action is to improve livestock distribution in Mud Creek Allotment and to eliminate livestock use from perennial streams (Bridge Creek and Mud Creek).	T. 32 S., R. 32½ E., Sec. 3	WSA	EA is in progress. Decision Record signed July 18, 2002.
EA OR-026-01-24 Primary Contact: Rick Hall	Lower Grassy Pipeline Extension	The proposed action is to bury 1¼ mile of pipeline and to install trough. The purpose of this action is to improve livestock distribution and to implement projects identified in the AMP.	Grassy Basin Allotment	None.	EA is in progress.

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EA OR-026-02-025 Primary Contact: Manny Berain	LaVoy Table AMP	<p>The proposed actions are to renew the 10 year permit, make the highway pasture trailing only, remove the S. Duhaime pasture from the allotment, and increase wildlife AUMs.</p> <p>The purposes of these actions are to continue multiple use objectives, reduce safety concerns, put S. Duhaime pasture into the north Catlow allotment to fit with the rancher's operations, and adjust the AMP to correspond to ODFW big game estimated forage requirements.</p>	Southwest of Frenchglen	Blitzen River WSA, South Steens HMA, ACEC, Special Status Plants	EA initiated February 2, 2002. EA is in progress.
EA OR-026-02-043 Primary Contact: Carolyn Freeborn	Defenbaugh Fence	<p>The proposed action is to construct 2-5 miles of fence in the Trout Creek Mountain allotment.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to change livestock access to the Mahogany Ridge pasture to allow for continued riparian improvement on the lower reach of Big Trout Creek.</p>	Trout Creek Mountain	WSA	EA initiated April 10, 2002. EA is in progress.
EA OR-026-02-047 Primary Contact: Rick Hall	Sandhills Allotment	<p>The proposed action is to assess the Sandhills Allotment and Projects to implement the AMP as proposed in the Evaluation.</p> <p>The purposes of this action are to continue multiple use objectives and improve livestock management.</p>	Trout Creek/Bilk Creek, Sandhills Allotment	None	EA initiated May 30, 2002. EA is in progress.
EA OR-026-03-065 Primary Contact: Terri Geisler	Long Hollow Summit Materials Source Expansion	<p>The proposed action is to enlarge an existing rock source.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to provide rock for roads in the vicinity.</p>	Adjacent to Steens CMPA	None	EA initiated April 21, 2003. EA is in progress.

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EA OR-027-02-011 Primary Contact: Mark Sherbourne	Steens Mountain Wilderness Inholding Access	The proposed action is to authorize reasonable motorized access for landowners to private land completely surrounded by wilderness. The purpose of this action is to comply with the directives of the Steens Act.	Designated Wilderness	Wilderness, WSR	EA is in progress.
EA OR-027-02-12 Primary Contact: John Neeling	Steens Mountain Wilderness Grazing Access	The proposed action is to allow occasional motorized vehicle access for grazing permittees. The purpose of this action is to comply with the directives of the Steens Act.	Designated Wilderness	Wilderness	EA is in progress.
EA OR-027-02-22 Primary Contact: Mark Sherbourne	Steens Mountain Running Camp	The proposed action is to issue a special recreation use permit authorization. The purpose of this action to allow continuation of the special recreation use permit for the Steens Mountain Running Camp.	Steens Mountain	WSA, WSR, CMPA, Wilderness	EA initiated January 21, 2002. Decision Record signed January 3, 2003.
EA OR-027-02-040 Primary Contact: Jeff Rose	Sheepshead Complex Rehabilitation	The proposed action is to construct approximately 5 miles of new temporary 4-strand barbed-wire fence. The purpose of this action is to provide a minimum of 2 years rest from grazing, thereby allowing rehabilitation.	East Steens	CMPA	EA initiated March 22, 2002. Decision Record signed April 18, 2002.
EA OR-027-02-059 Primary Contact: Joe Glascock	Hollywood Field Pipeline/Hwy 205 Fence	The proposed action is to build a fence east of Hwy 205 and construct a pipeline and trough within the Hollywood Field in the South Steens allotment. The purpose of this action is to remove the safety hazard of wild horses on Hwy 205 and to provide water to wild horses and cattle.	East of Hwy 205 from Plush turn-off to Beckley turn-off	None	EA is complete. Decision Record signed January 27, 2003.

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EA OR-027-02-060 Primary Contact: Joe Glascock	South Steens HMA Gather	<p>The proposed action is to gather wild horse within the South Steens HMA.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to gather wild horses which exceed the appropriate management level.</p>	South Steens	South Fork Donner und Blitzen WSA, Blitzen WSA, Steens Wild and Scenic River	<p>EA initiated August 26, 2002.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>
EA OR-027-03-034 Primary Contact: Mark Sherbourne	Miller Land Exchange	<p>The proposed action is to conduct a land exchange with Rock Creek Ranch in which the BLM acquires 233 acres within the CMPA and disposes of approximately 600 acres in Catlow Valley adjacent to Rock Creek Ranch.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to acquire land within the CMPA and adjacent to Stonehouse WSA. The offered private land is excellent wildlife habit for chukars and mule deer. Land adjacent to Rock Creek Ranch is primarily suited for agriculture. Two small wilderness inholdings totaling 30 acres may also be acquired by BLM.</p>	CMPA – East Steens/Catlow Valley	WSA	EA to be initiated in Summer 2003.
EA OR-027-03-064 Primary Contact: Terri Geisler	Steens Act Materials Sources	<p>The proposed action is to develop three rock sources identified in the Steens Act.</p> <p>The purpose of this action is to provide rock for roads in the vicinity.</p>	Within the Steens CMPA	Steens CMPA	<p>EA initiated April 21, 2003.</p> <p>EA is in progress.</p>

